

By: Goodwin

H.B. No. 795

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 795:

By: Martinez

C.S.H.B. No. 795

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the designation of highway safety corridors; increasing
3 a fine.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Dr. Michael James
6 Babineaux Act.

7 SECTION 2. Subchapter K, Chapter 201, Transportation Code,
8 is amended by adding Section 201.9051 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 201.9051. HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR. (a) The
10 department shall designate as a highway safety corridor a portion
11 of a roadway containing a site with a high number of traffic
12 fatalities, as identified by the governing body of the municipality
13 or county in whose jurisdiction the site is located.

14 (b) The department shall erect a sign at each end of the
15 highway safety corridor and at appropriate intermediate sites along
16 the corridor:

17 (1) indicating that it is a highway safety corridor;
18 and

19 (2) stating "Fines double: highway safety corridor."

20 (c) The department may distribute literature to the public
21 concerning highway safety corridors designated under this section.

22 (d) The commission by rule shall establish processes for the
23 governing body of a municipality or county to:

24 (1) identify sites with high numbers of traffic

1 fatalities; and

2 (2) inform the department of sites identified under
3 Subdivision (1) for designation as a highway safety corridor.

4 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 542, Transportation Code,
5 is amended by adding Section 542.4046 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 542.4046. FINE FOR OFFENSE IN HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR.

7 (a) In this section, "highway safety corridor" means a portion of a
8 roadway designated by the department in accordance with Section
9 201.9051.

10 (b) If an offense under this subtitle, other than an offense
11 under Chapter 548 or 552 or Section 545.412 or 545.413, is committed
12 in a highway safety corridor:

13 (1) the minimum fine applicable to the offense is
14 twice the minimum fine that would be applicable to the offense if it
15 were committed outside a highway safety corridor; and

16 (2) the maximum fine applicable to the offense is
17 twice the maximum fine that would be applicable to the offense if it
18 were committed outside a highway safety corridor.

19 SECTION 4. As soon as practicable after the effective date
20 of this Act, the Texas Department of Transportation by rule shall
21 establish the processes required by Section 201.9051(d),
22 Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

23 SECTION 5. The change in law made by this Act applies only
24 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
25 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
26 covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
27 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that

1 purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed
2 before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense
3 was committed before that date.

4 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.