

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 1222

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1222:

By: Canales

C.S.H.B. No. 1222

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a study on authorizing a passenger car or light truck to  
3 be operated with only a rear license plate.

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

5 SECTION 1. STUDY. (a) The Texas Department of Motor  
6 Vehicles and the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas  
7 shall jointly conduct a study on the feasibility, cost, and effect  
8 on law enforcement of authorizing a passenger car or light truck to  
9 be operated with a rear license plate and a windshield sticker  
10 instead of a front and rear license plate.

11 (b) The study must evaluate a license plate and windshield  
12 sticker system under which:

13 (1) the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles would:

14 (A) issue a set of two license plates to an  
15 applicant for registration of a passenger car or light truck; and

16 (B) adopt rules to:

17 (i) authorize a passenger car or light  
18 truck to display only a rear license plate if the motor vehicle is  
19 not equipped by the manufacturer with an exterior front feature to  
20 which a license plate may be fastened without drilling through the  
21 exterior of the vehicle;

22 (ii) require a vehicle that displays only a  
23 rear license plate under Subparagraph (i) to display a windshield  
24 sticker;

1 (iii) prescribe the manner and form of an  
2 application for a windshield sticker;

3 (iv) establish a reasonable fee for a  
4 windshield sticker;

5 (v) determine the information and  
6 documentation required to demonstrate eligibility for a windshield  
7 sticker; and

8 (vi) prescribe the form of the windshield  
9 sticker and the manner in which the sticker must be displayed;

10 (2) a person commits an offense that is a Class C  
11 misdemeanor if the person operates a passenger car or light truck  
12 that displays a windshield sticker and only a rear license plate  
13 and:

14 (A) the unmounted license plate issued for the  
15 vehicle is not in the vehicle; or

16 (B) the person fails to produce for inspection,  
17 on the request of a peace officer, the unmounted license plate  
18 issued for the vehicle;

19 (3) a peace officer may not stop a passenger car or  
20 light truck that displays a windshield sticker and only a rear  
21 license plate solely to enforce the requirements that the unmounted  
22 license plate issued for the vehicle be in the vehicle and produced  
23 at the request of the officer; and

24 (4) a person commits an offense if the person operates  
25 on a public highway, during a registration period, a vehicle that  
26 does not display all license plates and any windshield sticker  
27 required to be displayed on the vehicle.

1           SECTION 2. REPORT. Not later than October 1, 2024, the  
2 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public  
3 Safety of the State of Texas shall jointly submit to the legislature  
4 a report of the results of the study conducted under this Act.

5           SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act expires September 1,  
6 2025.

7           SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
8 1, 2023.