

By: Anchía

H.B. No. 2564

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the investigation of certain motor vehicle accidents by trained employees of a law enforcement agency.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 550.041, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 550.041. INVESTIGATION BY PEACE OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

SECTION 2. Section 550.041, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) An employee of a law enforcement agency who has successfully completed a training program on investigating motor vehicle accidents approved by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement may investigate a motor vehicle accident, without regard to whether the accident occurred on property to which this chapter applies, if:

(1) no offense was committed during the accident;

(2) no injury or death of a person occurred as a result of the accident; and

(3) any property damage that resulted from the accident was to an apparent extent of less than \$5,000.

SECTION 3. The heading to Section 550.062, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 550.062. OFFICER'S OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

1 EMPLOYEE'S ACCIDENT REPORT.

2 SECTION 4. Section 550.062, Transportation Code, is amended  
3 by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsections (b), (b-1), and  
4 (c) to read as follows:

5 (a-1) An employee of a law enforcement agency who  
6 investigates a motor vehicle accident in accordance with Section  
7 550.041(c) shall make a written report summarizing the findings of  
8 the investigation.

9 (b) The report required by Subsection (a) or (a-1) must be  
10 filed electronically with the department not later than the 10th  
11 day after the date of the accident.

12 (b-1) If the motor vehicle accident involved a combination  
13 of vehicles operating under a permit issued under Section 623.402,  
14 the report required by Subsection (a) or (a-1) must include the  
15 weight and the number of axles of the vehicle combination.

16 (c) This section applies without regard to whether the  
17 officer or law enforcement agency employee, as applicable,  
18 investigates the accident at the location of the accident and  
19 immediately after the accident or afterwards by interviewing those  
20 involved in the accident or witnesses to the accident.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.