

By: LaHood

H.B. No. 4176

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the investigation of certain motor vehicle collisions.

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 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) A peace officer who is notified of a motor vehicle collision resulting in injury to or death of a person or property damage to an apparent extent of at least \$5,000 [~~\$1,000~~] may investigate the collision and file justifiable charges relating to the collision without regard to whether the collision occurred on property to which this chapter applies.

(c) An employee of a law enforcement agency who is not a peace officer, and who has successfully completed a training program on investigating motor vehicle collisions that satisfies any applicable requirements of Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, may investigate a motor vehicle collision, without regard to whether the collision occurred on property to which this chapter applies, if:

(1) no offense was committed during the collision

1 other than a misdemeanor punishable by fine only;

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

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

6 SECTION 3. Section 550.062, Transportation Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 550.062. OFFICER'S OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
9 EMPLOYEE'S COLLISION REPORT. (a) A law enforcement officer who in
10 the regular course of duty investigates a motor vehicle collision
11 shall make a written report of the collision if the collision
12 resulted in injury to or the death of a person or damage to the
13 property of any one person to the apparent extent of \$5,000 [~~\$1,000~~]
14 or more.

15 (a-1) An employee of a law enforcement agency who is not a
16 peace officer and who investigates a motor vehicle collision in
17 accordance with Section 550.041(c) shall make a written report
18 summarizing the findings of the investigation.

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

22 (b-1) If the motor vehicle collision involved a combination
23 of vehicles operating under a permit issued under Section 623.402,
24 the report required by Subsection (a) or (a-1) must include the
25 weight and the number of axles of the vehicle combination.

26 (c) This section applies without regard to whether the
27 officer or law enforcement agency employee, as applicable,

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1 investigates the collision at the location of the collision and
2 immediately after the collision or afterwards by interviewing those
3 involved in the collision or witnesses to the collision.

4 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.