

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 345
By: Ogden
Infrastructure Development and Security
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Enrolled

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, Texas law regulating window tinting does not combine the tint already incorporated by the vehicle manufacturer with the window tint applied after the purchase of a vehicle, to determine compliance with the law. Therefore, law enforcement and state inspectors can not accurately determine the total percentage of window tinting. In addition, the current law exempts motor vehicles manufactured before 1988 from all state laws governing window tinting. S.B. 345 changes the current law to allow measurement of the light transmission or reflectance of the window tint in combination with the manufacture tinted window. This bill also removes the exemption for motor vehicles manufactured before 1988.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 547.613(b) and (c), Transportation Code, as follows:

(b) Decreases from 33 percent or more to 25 percent or more the minimum required light transmission and the minimum required luminous reflectance of a windshield with a sunscreening device that is in combination with the windshield. Redefines the list of items not covered by this section to include a blue suncreening device and a wing vent or a window other than a windshield if the vent or window has a sunscreening device that in combination with the vent or window has certain characteristics. Includes in the list of items not covered by this section a window that complies with federal standards for window materials, including a factory-tinted or a pretinted window installed by the vehicle manufacturer, or a replacement window meeting certain specifications. Deletes language referring to a motor vehicle with a manufacturer's model year before 1988. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(c) Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2003.