

By: Talton

H.B. No. 849

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 849:

By: Hamric

C.S.H.B. No. 849

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the regulation of tow truck lights by political  
3 subdivisions.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 545.306(a), Transportation Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The commissioners court of a county with a population of  
8 3.3 million or more shall by ordinance provide for the licensing of  
9 or the granting of a permit to a person to remove or store a vehicle  
10 authorized by Section 545.305 to be removed in an unincorporated  
11 area of the county. The ordinance must include rules to ensure the  
12 protection of the public and the safe and efficient operation of  
13 towing and storage services in the county and may not regulate or  
14 restrict the use of lighting equipment more than the extent allowed  
15 by state and federal law. The sheriff shall determine the rules  
16 included in the ordinance with the review and consent of the  
17 commissioners court.

18 SECTION 2. Section 643.201(a), Transportation Code, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (a) In addition to the registration requirements of  
21 Subchapter B, a political subdivision of this state may regulate  
22 the operation of a tow truck to the extent allowed by federal law,  
23 except that a political subdivision may not issue a more  
24 restrictive regulation for the use of lighting equipment on a tow

1 truck than is imposed by this title.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.