

By: Elkins

H.B. No. 1001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the penalty for speeding on a highway where the Texas Transportation Commission has established a speed limit for environmental purposes.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 542, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 542.405 to read as follows:

Sec. 542.405. FINE FOR SPEEDING OFFENSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SPEED ZONE. (a) If a person commits an offense under Section 545.351 on a part of the highway system where the Texas Transportation Commission has declared a prima facie speed limit for environmental purposes and the person was exceeding that speed limit by 20 miles per hour or less, the maximum fine applicable to the offense is \$25.

(b) A person who delivers or issues for delivery insurance coverage for a motor vehicle may not consider an offense described by Subsection (a) in determining the rate for the coverage. A person that violates this subsection is subject to the penalties described by Article 5.12-1, Insurance Code.

SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 545, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 545.3531 to read as follows:

Sec. 545.3531. SPEED LIMIT DECLARED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES. If the Texas Transportation Commission declares on a highway a prima facie speed limit for environmental purposes, the

1 commission shall inform the appropriate law enforcement agencies  
2 and courts of the declared speed limit and where the declared speed  
3 limit begins and ends on that highway.

4         SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and  
5 applies only to an offense committed on or after that date. An  
6 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is covered  
7 by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the  
8 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.