

By: Flores

H.B. No. 1216

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to requiring a sticker on a motor vehicle evidencing  
3 financial responsibility.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 502.153(b), Transportation Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The county assessor-collector shall examine the  
8 evidence of financial responsibility to determine whether it  
9 complies with Subsection (c). After examining the evidence, the  
10 assessor-collector shall:

11 (1) return the evidence unless it is in the form of a  
12 photocopy or an electronic submission; and

13 (2) issue a sticker described by Section 601.051(b) if  
14 the evidence complies with Subsection (c).

15 SECTION 2. Section 601.051, Transportation Code, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 601.051. REQUIREMENT OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. (a)  
18 A person may not operate a motor vehicle in this state unless  
19 financial responsibility is established for that vehicle through:

20 (1) a motor vehicle liability insurance policy that  
21 complies with Subchapter D;

22 (2) a surety bond filed under Section 601.121;

23 (3) a deposit under Section 601.122;

24 (4) a deposit under Section 601.123; or

1 (5) self-insurance under Section 601.124.

2 (b) A motor vehicle that is operated in this state for which  
3 this chapter requires establishment of financial responsibility,  
4 other than a vehicle owned by a nonresident and registered under the  
5 laws of the owner's home state, must have affixed to it a sticker  
6 indicating that financial responsibility has been established for  
7 the vehicle under Subsection (a).

8 (c) The application for the sticker required under  
9 Subsection (b) must be made to the department through the county  
10 assessor-collector of the county in which the owner resides.

11 (d) On payment of a prescribed fee, the county  
12 assessor-collector shall issue to an applicant who establishes  
13 financial responsibility under Section 502.153 a sticker that, when  
14 attached to the vehicle as prescribed by the department, is the  
15 financial responsibility insignia for the period for which it was  
16 issued.

17 (e) The department shall:

18 (1) design the sticker described in Subsection (b) to  
19 include the sticker's expiration date;

20 (2) impose a fee to defray the cost of administering  
21 this section; and

22 (3) adopt rules to administer this section, including  
23 rules:

24 (A) determining the disposition of fees  
25 collected under this section between the department and the county  
26 assessor-collector; and

27 (B) providing for the submission of records

1 required under this section from the county assessor-collector to  
2 the department.

3 (f) A sticker issued by the department under Subsection (d)  
4 expires:

5 (1) on the first anniversary of the date of issuance if  
6 financial responsibility is established by a method listed under  
7 Subsections (a)(2)-(a)(5); or

8 (2) on the day the motor vehicle liability insurance  
9 policy expires if financial responsibility is established by the  
10 method listed in Subsection (a)(1).

11 SECTION 3. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

12 (b) Before September 1, 2004, the Department of Public  
13 Safety shall adopt rules to implement the changes in law made by  
14 this Act.

15 (c) The changes in law made by this Act apply to a motor  
16 vehicle according to the rules adopted under Subsection (b) of this  
17 section.