

By: King

H.B. No. 3206

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the funding of traffic enforcement through the state highway fund and increased traffic fines and fees.

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

SECTION 1. Section 222.001, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 222.001. USE OF STATE HIGHWAY FUND. Except as provided in Section 222.0015, money [~~Money~~] that is required to be used for public roadways by the Texas Constitution or federal law and that is deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the state highway fund, including money deposited to the credit of the state highway fund under Title 23, United States Code, may be used only:

(1) to improve the state highway system;

(2) to mitigate adverse environmental effects that result directly from construction or maintenance of a state highway by the department; or

(3) by the Department of Public Safety to police the state highway system and to administer state laws relating to traffic and safety on public roads.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 222, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 222.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 222.0015. LOCAL POLICING OF PUBLIC ROADS. (a) From funds appropriated under subsection (b), the commission shall grant money to counties and municipalities for the purpose of policing

1 public roads to enhance traffic safety. The commission shall by
2 rule:

3 (1) determine who is eligible to apply for a grant;

4 (2) adopt a formula that distributes available money
5 to eligible grant recipients;

6 (3) establish requirements governing the expenditure
7 of money granted under this section; and

8 (4) prescribe any other policies and procedures
9 necessary to effectively implement this section.

10 (b) The legislature may, using any available money in the
11 state highway fund, appropriate to the department no more than \$100
12 million per fiscal year for the purposes of this section.

13 (c) This section expires August 31, 2007.

14 SECTION 3. Subtitle C, Title 7, Transportation Code, is
15 amended by adding Section 542.4025 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 542.2025. ADDITIONAL FINE. In cases in which a
17 violation of this subtitle is alleged, the court shall impose an
18 additional fine of \$35 to offset state expenditures on the
19 enforcement of traffic laws. The proceeds from this additional
20 fine shall be sent to the comptroller.

21 SECTION 4. Section 45.0511, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
22 amended by adding subsection (r) to read as follows:

23 (r) In addition to any other fee imposed under this section,
24 the court shall impose a state administrative fee of \$35 to offset
25 state expenditures on the enforcement of traffic laws. The
26 proceeds from imposition of this state administrative fee shall be
27 sent to the comptroller.

1 SECTION 5. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.