By: Carona   S.B. No. 209

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2   relating to prohibiting a motor vehicle from being equipped with

3   certain video equipment and devices.

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

5   SECTION 1. The heading to Section 547.611, Transportation

6   Code, is amended to read as follows:

7   Sec. 547.611. USE OF CERTAIN VIDEO EQUIPMENT AND TELEVISION

8   RECEIVERS [PERMITTED].

9   SECTION 2. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 547.611,

10   Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

11   (a) A motor vehicle may be equipped with video receiving

12   equipment, including a television [and similar equipment], a

13   digital video disc player, a videocassette player, or similar

14   equipment, only if the equipment is located so that the video

15   display is not visible from the operator's seat.

16   (c) This section does not prohibit the use of:

17   (1) equipment used:

18   (A) exclusively   for   receiving   digital

19   information for commercial purposes;

20   (B) exclusively for a safety or law enforcement

21   purpose, if each installation is approved by the department; [or]

22   (C) in a remote television transmission truck; or

23   (D) exclusively for monitoring the performance

24   of equipment installed on a vehicle used for safety purposes in

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1 connection with the operations of a natural gas, water, or electric

2 utility; or

3   (2) a monitoring device that:

4   (A) produces an electronic display; and

5   (B) is used exclusively in conjunction with a

6 mobile navigation system installed in the vehicle.

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

8   (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to an

9 offense committed on or after September 1, 2003.

10   (c) An offense committed before September 1, 2003, is

11 covered by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the

12 former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of

13 this section, an offense was committed before September 1, 2003, if

14 any element of the offense was committed before that date.