

By: Carona

S.B. No. 209

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting a motor vehicle from being equipped with certain video equipment and devices.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 547.611, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 547.611. USE OF CERTAIN VIDEO EQUIPMENT AND TELEVISION RECEIVERS [~~PERMITTED~~].

SECTION 2. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 547.611, Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A motor vehicle may be equipped with video receiving equipment, including a television [~~and similar equipment~~], a digital video disc player, a videocassette player, or similar equipment, only if the equipment is located so that the video display is not visible from the operator's seat.

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

(1) equipment used:

(A) exclusively for receiving digital information for commercial purposes;

(B) exclusively for a safety or law enforcement purpose, if each installation is approved by the department; [~~or~~]

(C) in a remote television transmission truck; or

(D) exclusively for monitoring the performance of equipment installed on a vehicle used for safety purposes in

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.