

By: Staples

S.B. No. 461

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the operation of authorized emergency vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Section 546.002, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 546.002. WHEN CONDUCT PERMISSIBLE. (a) In this section, "police escort" means facilitating the movement of a funeral, oversized or hazardous load, or other traffic disruption for public safety purposes by a full-time peace officer described by Articles 2.12(1)-(4), Code of Criminal Procedure.

(b) Section 546.001 applies only when the operator is:

- (1) responding to an emergency call;
- (2) pursuing an actual or suspected violator of the law; ~~or~~
- (3) responding to but not returning from a fire alarm;
- (4) directing or diverting traffic; or
- (5) conducting a police escort.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.