

Amend Floor Amendment No. 1 to **HB 183** by adding the following appropriately numbered sections to the bill and renumbering subsequent sections of the bill accordingly:

SECTION ____ . Subchapter I, Chapter 545, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 545.4121 to read as follows:

Sec. 545.4121. DEFENSE; POSSESSION OF CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SEAT SYSTEM. (a) This section applies to an offense committed under Section 545.412.

(b) It is an defense to prosecution of an offense to which this section applies that the defendant provides to the court evidence satisfactory to the court that the defendant possesses an appropriate child passenger safety seat system for each child required to be secured in a child passenger safety seat system under Section 545.412(a).

SECTION ____ .

(a) The Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas shall conduct a study regarding legislative options to improve child passenger safety laws.

(b) In completing the study, the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas shall seek input from:

(1) state agencies charged with developing child passenger laws;

(2) advocates for child safety;

(3) volunteer organizations providing child safety services to children;

(4) parents;

(5) automobile manufacturers and child passenger safety seat manufacturers; and

(6) other appropriate persons as determined by the department.

(c) The study must include:

(1) whether there are public safety benefits to increasing the age, height, or weight requirements for children to ride in a vehicle properly secured in a safety seat;

(2) the need for a grace period for drivers to learn of a potential change in child passenger safety seat laws;

(3) potential reduction of health care costs to treat

seatbelt and other related injuries to children if child passenger safety laws are changed;

(4) options to educate parents and educators about the importance of child passenger safety laws; and

(5) other states' child safety laws;

(d) The Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas shall complete the study and report to the legislature on or before September 1, 2006.

(e) This SECTION expires September 1, 2007.