

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 1531  
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Law Enforcement  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Current law does not clearly address whether a telematics service provider is subject to the Private Security Act (Chapter 1702 of the Occupations Code). While telematics service providers do offer remote assistance to individuals with issues regarding their vehicles, they are not an alarm company and as such, should not be subject to the same compliance requirements. C.S.H.B. 1531 defines what a telematics service provider is, by the boundaries of its functions, and specifically exempts such providers from the requirements of the Private Security Act.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Department of Public Safety in SECTION 1 and SECTION 2 of this bill.

### **ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 1531 amends the Occupation Code by adding §1702.331 to provide the following:

- Defines “telematics service”
- Exempts services defined by §1702.331 from the requirements of Chapter 1702 of the Occupations Code (Private Security Act), except as otherwise provided by this section.
- Requires a telematics service provider to establish business practices and procedures that are at least as stringent as the guidelines established by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International, regarding the communication of information from telematics service providers to public safety agencies in order to qualify for an exemption provided by §1702.331.
- Requires the payment of an annual fee of \$2,500 to the Department of Public Safety in order to qualify for the exemption provided by §1702.331.
- Gives the Department of Public Safety authority to adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

C.S.H.B. 1531 provides that the Department of Public Safety must adopt rules for the implementation of this section by September 1, 2006, and that a telematics service provider is not required to comply with the new §1702.331 of the Occupations Code before that date.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2005

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE**

The original language of House Bill 1531 granted rulemaking authority to the Texas Commission on Private Security in SECTION 1 of the original bill, while C.S.H.B. 1531 gives the rulemaking authority in SECTION 1 to the Department of Public Safety.

The original language of HB 1531 granted rulemaking authority to the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education in SECTION 2, while C.S.H.B. 1531 gives rulemaking authority in SECTION 2 to the Department of Public Safety.

The original language of HB 1531 requires the payment of an annual fee of \$2,500 to the Texas Commission on Private Security in order to qualify for the exemption provided by §1702.331, C.S.H.B. 1531 79(R)

whereas C.S.H.B. 1531 also requires the fee but directs payment of the fee to the Commission on Private Security.