

By: McCall, et al.

H.B. No. 160

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to motor vehicles equipped with recording devices.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 547, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 547.615 to read as follows:

Sec. 547.615. RECORDING DEVICES. (a) In this section, "recording device" means a feature that is installed by the manufacturer in a motor vehicle and that does any of the following for the purpose of retrieving information from the vehicle after an accident in which the vehicle has been involved:

(1) records the speed and direction the vehicle is traveling;

(2) records vehicle location data;

(3) records steering performance;

(4) records brake performance, including information on whether brakes were applied before an accident;

(5) records the driver's safety belt status; or

(6) transmits information concerning the accident to a central communications system when the accident occurs.

(b) A manufacturer of a new motor vehicle that is sold or leased in this state and that is equipped with a recording device shall disclose that fact in the owner's manual of the vehicle.

(c) Information recorded or transmitted by a recording device may not be retrieved by a person other than the owner of the

1 motor vehicle in which the recording device is installed except on  
2 court order or with the consent of the owner.

3 (d) If a recording device is used as part of a subscription  
4 service, the subscription service agreement must disclose that the  
5 device may record or transmit information as described by  
6 Subsection (a). Subsection (c) does not apply to a subscription  
7 service under this subsection.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2006.