

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 195

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 device 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 a history of where the motor vehicle travels;

(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.

(b) A person who sells or leases a new motor vehicle in this state that is equipped with a recording device shall disclose that fact in the owner's manual for the vehicle.

(c) A person who rents a motor vehicle in this state that is

1 equipped with a recording device shall disclose that fact to the
2 renter of the vehicle.

3 (d) Information recorded or transmitted by a recording
4 device may not be retrieved by a person other than the owner of the
5 motor vehicle in which the recording device is installed except on
6 court order or with the consent of the owner.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.