

By: Goolsby

H.B. No. 523

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to restriction on the use of certain highway lanes by  
3 certain vehicles.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,  
6 is amended by adding Section 545.0653 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 545.0653. RESTRICTION ON USE OF LEFT LANE BY CERTAIN  
8 VEHICLES. (a) This section applies only to a vehicle or  
9 combination of vehicles that:

10 (1) has a total of 18 wheels or more; and

11 (2) is on a highway that:

12 (A) is in the designated state highway system;

13 (B) is designated a controlled access facility;

14 and

15 (C) has a minimum of three travel lanes,  
16 excluding access or frontage roads, in each direction of traffic.

17 (b) An operator of a vehicle or combination of vehicles to  
18 which this section applies may not drive in the lane farthest to the  
19 left unless:

20 (1) doing so is necessary to enter or exit the highway;

21 or

22 (2) only that lane is available for travel because of:

23 (A) construction or maintenance activity; or

24 (B) emergency or incident management.

1           (c) The Texas Department of Transportation shall erect and  
2 maintain official traffic control devices necessary to implement  
3 and enforce this section. A restriction imposed by Subsection (b)  
4 may not be enforced until the appropriate traffic control devices  
5 are in place.

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