

By: Giddings

H.B. No. 610

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of an offense of using a telephone while operating a school bus.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 545, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 545.425 to read as follows:

Sec. 545.425. RULES RELATING TO SCHOOL BUSES. An operator of a school bus may not use a telephone while operating the school bus unless:

(1) the school bus is stopped;

(2) there are no passengers on the school bus; or

(3) the school bus cannot safely be stopped and the operator is reporting an emergency that affects:

(A) the proper functioning of the school bus; or

(B) the health or safety of any person, regardless of whether the person is on the school bus.

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