

By: Smith of Harris

H.B. No. 1137

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the authority of the Department of Public Safety to
3 enter into agreements with foreign countries for issuance of
4 driver's licenses.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
7 is amended by adding Section 521.0305 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 521.0305. AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. (a) The
9 department may enter into an agreement with a foreign country under
10 which:

11 (1) a nonresident who is 18 years of age or older and
12 who has in the person's possession a license issued to the person
13 from the person's country of residence that is similar to a Class A
14 driver's license issued under this chapter may receive a Class A
15 driver's license issued in a priority manner under this chapter;
16 and

17 (2) a person who is 18 years of age or older and who has
18 in the person's possession a Class A driver's license issued under
19 this chapter may receive a license similar to a Class A driver's
20 license issued in a priority manner from the foreign country.

21 (b) The department may only enter into an agreement with a
22 country under Subsection (a) if:

23 (1) the foreign country and this state are both
24 parties to a reciprocity agreement in driver licensing; and

1 (2) the foreign country's motor vehicle laws,
2 ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations are similar to
3 those of this state, as determined by the department.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.