

1-1 By: Smith of Harris (Senate Sponsor - Seliger) H.B. No. 1137
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2005;
1-3 May 12, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Transportation and Homeland Security; May 23, 2005, reported
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 23, 2005, sent
1-6 to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the authority of the Department of Public Safety to
1-10 enter into agreements with foreign countries for issuance of
1-11 driver's licenses.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
1-14 is amended by adding Section 521.0305 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 521.0305. AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. (a) The
1-16 department may enter into an agreement with a foreign country under
1-17 which:

1-18 (1) a person who is 18 years of age or older and who has
1-19 in the person's possession a license issued to the person by that
1-20 country that is similar to a Class C driver's license issued under
1-21 this chapter may receive a Class C driver's license issued in a
1-22 priority manner under this chapter; and

1-23 (2) a person who is 18 years of age or older and who has
1-24 in the person's possession a Class C driver's license issued under
1-25 this chapter may receive a license similar to a Class C driver's
1-26 license issued in a priority manner from the foreign country.

1-27 (b) The department may only enter into an agreement with a
1-28 country under Subsection (a) if:

1-29 (1) the foreign country and this state are both
1-30 parties to a reciprocity agreement in driver licensing; and

1-31 (2) the foreign country's motor vehicle laws,
1-32 ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations are similar to
1-33 those of this state, as determined by the department.

1-34 (c) A person who is not a citizen of the United States must
1-35 present to the department documentation issued by the United States
1-36 agency responsible for citizenship and immigration authorizing the
1-37 person to be in the United States before the person may be issued a
1-38 driver's license under an agreement under this section.

1-39 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-40 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-41 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-42 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-43 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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