

By: Hamilton

H.B. No. 3129

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of a driver safety program for holders of
3 provisional driver's licenses.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 521.032 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 521.032. PROVISIONAL LICENSE HOLDER DRIVER SAFETY
8 PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "program partner" means an
9 organization such as the I Saw You Safety & Scholarship Foundation,
10 Inc., that is:

11 (1) exempt from federal income taxation under Section
12 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as an organization described
13 by Section 501(c)(3) of that code; and

14 (2) created for the purpose of preventing injuries and
15 deaths caused by young drivers.

16 (b) The department shall create a driver safety pilot
17 program for provisional license holders in conjunction with a
18 program partner to determine whether a monitoring system will
19 reduce the number of accidents involving provisional license
20 holders. The pilot program shall:

21 (1) provide for voluntary participation and
22 enrollment in the program by a provisional license holder;

23 (2) establish a toll-free telephone system with
24 bilingual call centers for a person to report the observed

1 operation of a vehicle by a person who is participating or enrolled
2 in the pilot program; and

3 (3) commence on or before September 1, 2005.

4 (c) The department may solicit, accept, and administer
5 gifts and grants from any public or private source for the use and
6 benefit of the program. The department shall apply for grants from
7 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under 23 U.S.C.
8 Sections 403 and 407. The program partner shall prepare the
9 application for any grants for the pilot program at the expense of
10 the program partner. Money received by the department or the
11 program partner under this section and Section 521.421(i) shall be
12 deposited to the credit of the state highway fund and used by the
13 department to benefit the pilot program.

14 (d) The department shall appoint a project manager to
15 coordinate the pilot program and to facilitate the collection and
16 analysis of accident data.

17 (e) The legislature may appropriate money to the department
18 for support of the program in addition to any amounts allocated by
19 the General Appropriations Act.

20 (f) This section expires September 1, 2007.

21 SECTION 2. Section 521.421, Transportation Code, is amended
22 by adding Subsection (i) to read as follows:

23 (i) The department shall collect an additional fee of \$1 for
24 the issuance or renewal of a license under Subsection (a), (b), or
25 (c) to fund the Provisional License Holder Driver Safety Pilot
26 Program established under Section 521.032, unless the person
27 applying for or renewing a license chooses not to pay the additional

1 fee. This subsection expires September 1, 2007.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.