

By: Barrientos

S.B. No. 129

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to certain exceptions to the requirement that the operator  
3 of a motor vehicle operated on a turnpike project pay the proper  
4 toll or the full amount of the toll.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 361.252, Transportation Code, is amended  
7 by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (e), the ~~[The]~~ operator  
10 of a vehicle, other than an authorized emergency vehicle, that is  
11 driven or towed through a toll collection facility shall pay the  
12 proper toll.

13 (e) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the department may  
14 waive the requirement of the payment of a toll or may authorize the  
15 payment of a reduced toll for any vehicle or class of vehicles.

16 SECTION 2. Section 370.177, Transportation Code, is amended  
17 by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as  
18 follows:

19 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1), the ~~[The]~~  
20 operator of a vehicle, other than an authorized emergency vehicle  
21 as defined by Section 541.201, that is driven or towed through a  
22 toll collection facility of a turnpike project shall pay the proper  
23 toll. The operator of a vehicle who drives or tows a vehicle  
24 through a toll collection facility and does not pay the proper toll

1 commits an offense. An offense under this subsection is a  
2 misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250.

3 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the board may waive  
4 the requirement of the payment of a toll or may authorize the  
5 payment of a reduced toll for any vehicle or class of vehicles.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.