

AN ACT

relating to loose material transported by vehicle.

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

SECTION 1. Section 725.001, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (2) and adding Subdivision (4-a) to read as follows:

(2) "Loose material" means material that can be blown or spilled from a vehicle because of movement or exposure to air, wind currents, or other weather. The term includes dirt, sand, gravel, refuse, and wood chips but excludes an agricultural product in its natural state.

(4-a) "Refuse" means trash, rubbish, garbage, or any other discarded material.

SECTION 2. Section 725.002, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 725.002. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies to any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer operated on a public highway except~~+~~

~~[(1)]~~ a vehicle or construction or mining equipment that is:

(1) ~~[(A)]~~ moving between construction barricades on a public works project; or

(2) ~~[(B)]~~ crossing a public highway~~[, or~~

~~[(2) a vehicle that is operated at a speed less than 30~~

1 ~~miles per hour~~].

2 SECTION 3. Subsection (a), Section 725.003, Transportation  
3 Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) A person or the person's agent or employee may not  
5 transport loose material [~~, aggregates, or refuse~~] in violation of  
6 this chapter.

7 SECTION 4. Subsections (c) and (e), Section 725.021,  
8 Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

9 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (e), the load shall be  
10 covered and the covering firmly secured at the front and back,  
11 unless the load:

12 (1) is completely enclosed by the load-carrying  
13 compartment; or

14 (2) does not blow from or spill over the top of the  
15 load-carrying compartment.

16 (e) If the vehicle is a commercial motor vehicle  
17 transporting loose material [~~aggregates, as defined by Section~~  
18 ~~133.003, Natural Resources Code, or refuse~~], the load shall be  
19 covered and the covering firmly secured at the front and back or  
20 shall be completely enclosed by the load-carrying compartment. For  
21 purposes of this section, "commercial motor vehicle" means a motor  
22 vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used primarily in the business of  
23 transporting property.

24 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 387 passed the Senate on March 13, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 21, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 387 passed the House, with amendment, on May 17, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor