

1-1 By: Watson S.B. No. 1759
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2009; March 20, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland
1-4 Security; April 14, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
1-6 April 14, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1759 By: Watson

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the extended registration of a commercial fleet of
1-11 motor vehicles.

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

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 502.001, Transportation Code, is amended
1-14 by adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

1-15 (1-a) "Commercial fleet" means a group of at least 25
1-16 nonapportioned motor vehicles owned by a corporation, limited or
1-17 general partnership, limited liability company, or other business
1-18 entity and used for the business purposes of that entity.

1-19 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
1-20 is amended by adding Section 502.0023 to read as follows:

1-21 Sec. 502.0023. EXTENDED REGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL FLEET
1-22 MOTOR VEHICLES. (a) Notwithstanding Section 502.158(c), the
1-23 department shall develop and implement a system of registration to
1-24 allow an owner of a commercial fleet to register the motor vehicles
1-25 in the commercial fleet for an extended registration period of not
1-26 less than one year or more than eight years. The owner may select
1-27 the number of years for registration under this section within that
1-28 range and register the commercial fleet for that period. Payment
1-29 for all registration fees for the entire registration period
1-30 selected is due at the time of registration.

1-31 (b) In addition to the registration fees prescribed by
1-32 Subchapter D, an owner registering a commercial fleet under this
1-33 section shall pay:

1-34 (1) an annual commercial fleet registration fee of \$10
1-35 per motor vehicle in the fleet; and

1-36 (2) a one-time license plate manufacturing fee of
1-37 \$1.50 for each fleet motor vehicle license plate.

1-38 (c) A license plate issued under this section:

1-39 (1) may, on request of the owner, include the name or
1-40 logo of the business entity that owns the vehicle;

1-41 (2) must include the expiration date of the
1-42 registration period; and

1-43 (3) does not require an annual registration insignia
1-44 to be valid.

1-45 (d) If a motor vehicle registered under this section has a
1-46 gross weight in excess of 10,000 pounds, the department shall also
1-47 issue a registration card for the vehicle that is valid for the
1-48 selected registration period.

1-49 (e) The department shall adopt rules to implement this
1-50 section, including rules on suspension from the commercial fleet
1-51 program for failure to comply with this section or rules adopted
1-52 under this section.

1-53 SECTION 3. Subsection (b), Section 501.0234,
1-54 Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-55 (b) This section does not apply to a motor vehicle:

1-56 (1) that has been declared a total loss by an insurance
1-57 company in the settlement or adjustment of a claim;

1-58 (2) for which the certificate of title has been
1-59 surrendered in exchange for:

1-60 (A) a salvage vehicle title issued under this
1-61 chapter;

1-62 (B) a nonrepairable vehicle title issued under
1-63 this chapter;

2-1 (C) a certificate of authority issued under
2-2 Subchapter D, Chapter 683; or
2-3 (D) an ownership document issued by another state
2-4 that is comparable to a document described by Paragraphs (A)-(C);
2-5 [~~or~~]
2-6 (3) with a gross weight in excess of 11,000 pounds; or
2-7 (4) purchased by a commercial fleet buyer who utilizes
2-8 the dealer title application process developed to provide a method
2-9 to submit title transactions to counties that have approved the
2-10 persons as full-service deputies under Section 502.114.
2-11 SECTION 4. The Texas Department of Transportation shall
2-12 adopt the rules and establish the system required under Section
2-13 502.0023, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, not later than
2-14 September 1, 2010.
2-15 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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