

By: Veasey

H.B. No. 641

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to insurance requirements for certain contract carriers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 644.054(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The department shall adopt rules regulating the operation of a contract carrier to which this section applies. The rules must:

(1) prohibit a person from operating a vehicle for more than 12 hours in a day;

(2) require a person who operates a vehicle for the number of consecutive hours or days the department determines is excessive to rest for a period determined by the department;

(3) require a contract carrier to keep a record of all hours a vehicle subject to regulation under this section is operated;

(4) require a contract carrier to perform alcohol and drug testing of vehicle operators on employment, on suspicion of alcohol or drug abuse, and periodically as determined by the department;

(5) require a contract carrier, at a minimum, to maintain for each vehicle:

(A) liability insurance in the amount of \$3 [~~\$1.5~~] million [~~for each vehicle~~]; and

1 (B) uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage
2 in the amount of \$300,000; and

3 (6) be determined by the department to be necessary to
4 protect the safety of a passenger being transported or the general
5 public.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.