

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 2381

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an optional county fee for vehicle registration in Fort Bend County.

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

SECTION 1. This Act is enacted under the authority of the legislature to pass local laws for the maintenance of public roads and highways under Section 9(e), Article VIII, Texas Constitution.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.1726 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.1726. OPTIONAL COUNTY FEE FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN FORT BEND COUNTY. (a) The commissioners court of Fort Bend County, by order may impose an additional fee for registering a vehicle in the county as follows:

(1) for a vehicle having a value of \$10,000 or less, the additional fee is \$10; and

(2) for a vehicle having a value of more than \$10,000, the additional fee shall be \$10 plus an additional \$1 for each \$1,000 of value above \$10,000.

(b) For purposes of this section, the value of a vehicle shall be determined at the time of purchase. The value of the vehicle must be rounded to the nearest thousand dollar amount. The department shall adopt rules for implementing this section.

(c) A vehicle that may be registered under this chapter without payment of a registration fee may be registered in the

1 county imposing a fee under this section without payment of the
2 additional fee.

3 (d) A fee imposed under this section may take effect only on
4 January 1 of a year. The county must adopt the order and notify the
5 department not later than September 1 of the year preceding the year
6 in which the fee takes effect.

7 (e) A fee imposed under this section may be removed. The
8 removal may take effect only on January 1 of a year. The county may
9 remove the fee only by:

10 (1) rescinding the order imposing the fee; and

11 (2) notifying the department not later than September
12 1 of the year preceding the year in which the removal takes effect.

13 (f) The county assessor-collector of the county imposing a
14 fee under this section shall collect the additional fee for a
15 vehicle when other fees imposed under this chapter are collected.
16 The county may use the fee revenue only to fund long-term
17 transportation projects in the county.

18 (g) The department shall collect the additional fee on a
19 vehicle that is owned by a resident of the county imposing a fee
20 under this section and that, under this chapter, must be registered
21 directly with the department. The department shall send all fees
22 collected for the county under this subsection to the county for use
23 as provided by Subsection (f).

24 (h) The department shall adopt rules and develop forms
25 necessary to administer registration by mail for a vehicle being
26 registered in the county imposing a fee under this section.

27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.