

By: Solomons

H.B. No. 2541

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of traffic on certain roads by counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 542, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 542.0081 to read as follows:

Sec. 542.0081. TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: SPECIAL DISTRICT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a road owned or maintained by a special district that is located in the unincorporated area of a county with a population of less than one million.

(b) The residents of all or any portion of a special district may file a petition with the commissioners court of the county in which the roads are located requesting that county enforcement of traffic rules on county roads be extended to the roads of the district. The petition must:

(1) specify the roads over which county enforcement is sought;

(2) specify the traffic rules for which county enforcement is sought; and

(3) be signed by 50 percent of the property owners residing in the area that is served by the roads of the district over which county enforcement is sought.

(c) If the commissioners court finds that granting the request is in the interest of the county generally, the

1 commissioners court shall by order extend the enforcement of
2 traffic rules by the county to the roads of the district specified
3 in the petition. The order may grant enforcement of some or all
4 traffic rules requested in the petition.

5 (d) As a condition of extending a traffic rule under
6 Subsection (c), the commissioners court may require the special
7 district to pay for all or a part of the costs of extending
8 enforcement to the roads of the district. The commissioners court
9 shall consult with the sheriff to determine the cost of extending
10 enforcement.

11 (e) On issuance of an order under this section, the roads
12 specified in the order are considered to be county roads for the
13 purposes of the application and enforcement of the specified
14 traffic rules. The commissioners court may place official traffic
15 control devices on the right-of-way of the roads of the district if
16 those devices relate to the specified traffic rules.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.