

1-1 By: Solomons (Senate Sponsor - Nelson) H.B. No. 2541
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 20, 2011;
1-3 April 26, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Transportation and Homeland Security; May 20, 2011, reported
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 20, 2011,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the regulation of traffic on certain roads by counties.
1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 542, Transportation Code,
1-12 is amended by adding Section 542.0081 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 542.0081. TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: SPECIAL DISTRICT IN
1-14 CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a road owned or
1-15 maintained by a special district that is located in the
1-16 unincorporated area of a county with a population of less than one
1-17 million.

1-18 (b) The residents of all or any portion of a special
1-19 district may file a petition with the commissioners court of the
1-20 county in which the roads are located requesting that county
1-21 enforcement of traffic rules on county roads be extended to the
1-22 roads of the district. The petition must:

1-23 (1) specify the roads over which county enforcement is
1-24 sought;

1-25 (2) specify the traffic rules for which county
1-26 enforcement is sought; and

1-27 (3) be signed by 50 percent of the property owners
1-28 residing in the area that is served by the roads of the district
1-29 over which county enforcement is sought.

1-30 (c) If the commissioners court finds that granting the
1-31 request is in the interest of the county generally, the
1-32 commissioners court shall by order extend the enforcement of
1-33 traffic rules by the county to the roads of the district specified
1-34 in the petition. The order may grant enforcement of some or all
1-35 traffic rules requested in the petition.

1-36 (d) As a condition of extending a traffic rule under
1-37 Subsection (c), the commissioners court may require the special
1-38 district to pay for all or a part of the costs of extending
1-39 enforcement to the roads of the district. The commissioners court
1-40 shall consult with the sheriff to determine the cost of extending
1-41 enforcement.

1-42 (e) On issuance of an order under this section, the roads
1-43 specified in the order are considered to be county roads for the
1-44 purposes of the application and enforcement of the specified
1-45 traffic rules. The commissioners court may place official traffic
1-46 control devices on the right-of-way of the roads of the district if
1-47 those devices relate to the specified traffic rules.

1-48 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-49 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-50 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-51 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-52 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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