

AN ACT

relating to the refusal to register motor vehicles by a county assessor-collector or the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Section 502.185, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (f) and adding Subsection (f-1) to read as follows:

(a) A county assessor-collector or the department may refuse to register a motor vehicle if the assessor-collector or the department receives information that the owner of the vehicle:

(1) owes the county money for a fine, fee, or tax that is past due; or

(2) failed to appear in connection with a complaint, citation, information, or indictment in a court in the county in which a criminal proceeding is pending against the owner.

(f) A county that has a contract under Subsection (b) may impose an additional fee of \$20 to:

(1) a person who fails to pay [paying] a fine, fee, or tax to the county by the date on which the fine, fee, or tax is [after it is past] due; or

(2) a person who fails to appear in connection with a complaint, citation, information, or indictment in a court in which a criminal proceeding is pending against the owner.

(f-1) The additional fee may be used only to reimburse the

1 department or the county assessor-collector for its expenses for
2 providing services under the contract, or another county department
3 for expenses related to services under the contract.

4 SECTION 2. Section 702.003, Transportation Code, is amended
5 by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (e-1) to
6 read as follows:

7 (b) A municipality may contract with a county in which the
8 municipality is located or the department to provide information to
9 the county assessor-collector or department necessary to make a
10 determination under Subsection (a).

11 (c) A municipality that has a contract under Subsection (b)
12 shall notify the county assessor-collector or the department
13 regarding a person for whom the county assessor-collector or the
14 department has refused to register a motor vehicle on:

15 (1) entry of a judgment against the person and the
16 person's payment to the court of the fine for the violation and of
17 all court costs;

18 (2) perfection of an appeal of the case for which the
19 arrest warrant was issued; or

20 (3) dismissal of the charge for which the arrest
21 warrant was issued.

22 (e-1) A municipality that has a contract under Subsection
23 (b) may impose an additional \$20 fee to a person who has an
24 outstanding warrant from the municipality for failure to appear or
25 failure to pay a fine on a complaint that involves the violation of
26 a traffic law. The additional fee may be used only to reimburse the
27 department or the county assessor-collector for its expenses for

1 providing services under the contract, or another county department
2 for expenses related to services under the contract.

3 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by Sections 502.185 and
4 702.003, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, apply only to
5 a failure to appear or a fine, fee, or tax in connection with a
6 complaint, citation, information, or indictment issued on or after
7 the effective date of this Act. A failure to appear or a fine, fee,
8 or tax in connection with a complaint, citation, information, or
9 indictment issued before the effective date of this Act is subject
10 to the law in effect on that date, and that law is continued in
11 effect for that purpose.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1386 passed the Senate on May 9, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 3; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 3.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1386 passed the House, with amendment, on May 20, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 9, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor