

AN ACT

relating to the operation of a golf cart or utility vehicle on a public highway in certain counties; authorizing a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Section 551.402, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 551.402. REGISTRATION NOT AUTHORIZED. (a) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles [~~Transportation~~] may not register a golf cart for operation on a public highway regardless of whether any alteration has been made to the golf cart.

(b) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles [~~department~~] may issue license plates for a golf cart [~~only~~] as authorized by Subsection (c) [~~Section 504.510~~].

(c) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles shall by rule establish a procedure to issue the license plates to be used for operation in accordance with Sections 551.403 and 551.404.

(d) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may charge a fee not to exceed \$10 for the cost of the license plate.

SECTION 2. Section 551.404, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a-1) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a-1) In addition to the operation authorized by Section 551.403, the commissioners court of a county described by Subsection (a-2) [~~that borders or contains a portion of the~~

1 ~~Guadalupe River and contains a part of a barrier island that borders~~
2 ~~the Gulf of Mexico]~~ may allow an operator to operate a golf cart or
3 utility vehicle on all or part of a public highway that:

4 (1) is located in the unincorporated area of the
5 county; and

6 (2) has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per
7 hour.

8 (a-2) Subsection (a-1) applies only to a county that:

9 (1) borders or contains a portion of the Red River;

10 (2) borders or contains a portion of the Guadalupe
11 River and contains a part of a barrier island that borders the Gulf
12 of Mexico; or

13 (3) is adjacent to a county described by Subdivision
14 (2) and:

15 (A) has a population of less than 30,000; and

16 (B) contains a part of a barrier island that
17 borders the Gulf of Mexico.

18 SECTION 3. Section 504.510, Transportation Code, is
19 repealed.

20 SECTION 4. Not later than December 31, 2013, the Texas
21 Department of Motor Vehicles shall establish a procedure for the
22 issuance of license plates for golf carts to be used for operation
23 on a public highway, as required by Section 551.402(c),
24 Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

25 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

H.B. No. 719

1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 719 was passed by the House on April 11, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 719 on May 21, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 719 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 2.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor