

By: Davis

S.B. No. 1154

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to delinquent motor vehicle registrations and inspections; authorizing a change in the amount of a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 502.045(d) and (e), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d) A person who has been arrested or received a citation for a violation of Section 502.472 may register the vehicle being operated at the time of the offense for a 12-month period without change to the initial month of registration only if the person:

(1) meets the other requirements for registration under this chapter; and

(2) as applicable, pays [~~an additional charge equal to 20 percent of~~] the appropriate [~~prescribed~~] fee established under Section 502.360.

(e) The board by rule shall adopt a list of evidentiary items sufficient to establish good reason for delinquent registration under Subsection (b) and provide for the evidence that may be used to establish good reason under that subsection. The rules must require the evidence to include an affidavit stating the reason.

SECTION 2. Section 502.048, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 502.048. PROOF OF SAFETY INSPECTION REQUIRED; REFUSAL

1 TO REGISTER UNSAFE VEHICLE. (a) The department may not register a  
2 vehicle unless the vehicle has complied with the safety inspection  
3 requirements of Chapter 548.

4 (b) The department may refuse to register a motor vehicle  
5 and may cancel, suspend, or revoke a registration if the department  
6 determines that a motor vehicle is unsafe, improperly equipped, or  
7 otherwise unfit to be operated on a public highway.

8 SECTION 3. Subchapter G, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,  
9 is amended by adding Section 502.360 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 502.360. DELINQUENT REGISTRATION FEE. The board by  
11 rule shall establish a delinquent registration fee schedule for  
12 applicants for registration who are delinquent under Section  
13 502.045 without good reason under that section and register a  
14 vehicle later than the fifth day after the expiration date of the  
15 vehicle's registration period. The fee schedule established under  
16 this section must include an increase in the delinquent  
17 registration fee on the first day of each month after the month  
18 during which a registration becomes delinquent. The board may  
19 determine the amount of the increase.

20 SECTION 4. Section 548.101, Transportation Code, is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 548.101. GENERAL ONE-YEAR INSPECTION PERIOD. Except  
23 as provided by Section 548.102, the department shall require an  
24 annual inspection. The department shall set the periods of  
25 inspection and may make rules with respect to those periods. The  
26 department shall adopt rules that require the new inspection period  
27 of a vehicle that is inspected after the expiration date of the

1 vehicle's inspection period to end as if the vehicle was inspected  
2 before the expiration date.

3 SECTION 5. Section 548.501, Transportation Code, is amended  
4 by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 (c) The department shall adopt rules that increase the fee  
6 for inspection of a vehicle that is inspected later than the fifth  
7 day after the expiration date of the vehicle's inspection period.  
8 The rules adopted under this subsection must include an increase on  
9 the first day of each month after the month in which the expiration  
10 date occurred.

11 SECTION 6. Section 548.505, Transportation Code, is amended  
12 by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

13 (c) The department shall adopt rules that increase the fee  
14 for inspection of a vehicle that is inspected under Section  
15 548.301(a) later than the fifth day after the expiration date of the  
16 vehicle's inspection period. The rules adopted under this  
17 subsection must include an increase on the first day of each month  
18 after the month in which the expiration date occurred.

19 SECTION 7. Not later than December 1, 2013, the Texas  
20 Department of Motor Vehicles shall adopt the rules required by:

21 (1) Section 502.045(e), Transportation Code, as  
22 amended by this Act, and Section 502.360, Transportation Code, as  
23 added by this Act; and

24 (2) Section 548.101, Transportation Code, as amended  
25 by this Act, and Sections 548.501(c) and 548.505(c), Transportation  
26 Code, as added by this Act.

27 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect January 1, 2014.