

By: Giddings, Guillen

H.B. No. 473

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a prohibition on the sale or transfer of certain law
3 enforcement vehicles before removal of certain equipment and
4 insignia.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 2175, Government Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 2175.908 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 2175.908. SALE OR TRANSFER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE.

9 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the commission or another
10 state agency, including an agency delegated the authority to
11 dispose of surplus or salvage property under Section 2175.065, may
12 not sell or transfer a marked patrol car or other law enforcement
13 motor vehicle to the public unless the state agency first removes
14 any equipment or insignia that could mislead a reasonable person to
15 believe that the vehicle is a law enforcement motor vehicle,
16 including any police light, siren, amber warning light, spotlight,
17 grill light, antenna, emblem, outline of an emblem, and emergency
18 vehicle equipment.

19 (b) The commission or another state agency, including an
20 agency delegated the authority to dispose of surplus or salvage
21 property under Section 2175.065, may not sell or transfer a marked
22 patrol car or other law enforcement motor vehicle to a security
23 services contractor who is regulated by the Department of Public
24 Safety and licensed under Chapter 1702, Occupations Code, unless

1 each emblem or insignia that identifies the vehicle as a law
2 enforcement motor vehicle is removed before the sale or transfer.

3 SECTION 2. Section 2175.304, Government Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

5 (f) Section 2175.908 applies to a university system or
6 institution or agency of higher education included within the
7 definition of "state agency" under Section 2151.002.

8 SECTION 3. Chapter 272, Local Government Code, is amended
9 by adding Section 272.006 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 272.006. SALE OR TRANSFER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE.

11 (a) In this section, "political subdivision" means a county,
12 municipality, school district, junior college district, other
13 special district, or other subdivision of state government.

14 (b) A political subdivision may not sell or transfer a
15 marked patrol car or other law enforcement motor vehicle to the
16 public unless the political subdivision first removes any equipment
17 or insignia that could mislead a reasonable person to believe that
18 the vehicle is a law enforcement motor vehicle, including any
19 police light, siren, amber warning light, spotlight, grill light,
20 antenna, emblem, outline of an emblem, or emergency vehicle
21 equipment.

22 (c) A political subdivision may not sell or transfer a
23 marked patrol car or other political subdivision law enforcement
24 motor vehicle to a security services contractor who is regulated by
25 the Department of Public Safety and licensed under Chapter 1702,
26 Occupations Code, unless each emblem or insignia that identifies
27 the vehicle as a law enforcement motor vehicle is removed before the

1 sale or transfer.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.