

AN ACT

relating to the exemption of certain vehicles from registration fees.

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

SECTION 1. Section 502.453, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 502.453. GOVERNMENT-OWNED VEHICLES; PUBLIC SCHOOL BUSES; FIRE-FIGHTING VEHICLES; COUNTY MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES; U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY VEHICLES. (a) The owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer may annually apply for registration under Section 502.451 and is exempt from the payment of a registration fee under this chapter if the vehicle is:

(1) owned by and used exclusively in the service of:

(A) the United States;

(B) this state; or

(C) a county, municipality, or school district in this state;

(2) owned by a commercial transportation company and used exclusively to provide public school transportation services to a school district under Section 34.008, Education Code;

(3) designed and used exclusively for fire fighting;

(4) owned by a volunteer fire department and used exclusively in the conduct of department business;

(5) privately owned and used by a volunteer

1 exclusively in county marine law enforcement activities, including
2 rescue operations, under the direction of the sheriff's department;
3 [~~or~~]

4 (6) used by law enforcement under an alias for covert
5 criminal investigations; or

6 (7) owned by units of the United States Coast Guard
7 Auxiliary headquartered in Texas and used exclusively for conduct
8 of United States Coast Guard or Coast Guard Auxiliary business and
9 operations, including search and rescue, emergency communications,
10 and disaster operations.

11 (b) An application for registration under this section must
12 be made by a person having the authority to certify that the vehicle
13 meets the exemption requirements prescribed by Subsection (a). An
14 application for registration under this section of a fire-fighting
15 vehicle described by Subsection (a)(3) must include a reasonable
16 description of the vehicle and of any fire-fighting equipment
17 mounted on the vehicle. An application for registration under this
18 section of a vehicle described by Subsection (a)(5) must include a
19 statement signed by a person having the authority to act for a
20 sheriff's department that the vehicle is used exclusively in marine
21 law enforcement activities under the direction of the sheriff's
22 department. An application for registration under this section of
23 a vehicle described by Subsection (a)(7) must include a statement
24 signed by a person having authority to act for the United States
25 Coast Guard Auxiliary that the vehicle or trailer is used
26 exclusively in fulfillment of an authorized mission of the United
27 States Coast Guard or Coast Guard Auxiliary, including search and

1 rescue, patrol, emergency communications, or disaster operations.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1360 was passed by the House on May 8, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1360 was passed by the Senate on May 26, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor