

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 3061

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3061:

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C.S.H.B. No. 3061

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the movement of vehicles transporting ocean cargo shipping containers; authorizing a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 623, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 623.0172 to read as follows:

Sec. 623.0172. OCEAN CARGO SHIPPING CONTAINERS. (a) In this section, "ocean cargo shipping container" means an enclosed, standardized, reusable container that:

(1) is used to pack, ship, move, or transport cargo;

(2) is designed to be carried on a trailer or semitrailer and loaded onto a vessel for ocean-borne transportation; and

(3) when combined with vehicles transporting the container, has a gross weight that exceeds the limits allowed by law to be transported over a state highway.

(b) The department may issue an annual permit for the movement of a sealed ocean cargo shipping container moving in overseas international commerce on a trailer or semitrailer with three axles if the combination of vehicles transporting the container has:

(1) a single axle weight of not more than 20,000 pounds;

(2) a tandem axle weight of not more than 40,000

pounds;

(3) a tri-axle weight of not more than 60,000 pounds;

and

(4) a gross weight of not more than 97,000 pounds.

(c) The department shall restrict vehicles operating under a permit under this section to routes that:

(1) do not include:

(A) roadways or bridges that the department determines through sound engineering principles should not be used for overweight vehicles; or

(B) federal highways, if the department determines that the operation of a vehicle under a permit under this section on those highways would result in the loss of federal highway funding; and

(2) end at a facility in this state at which the sealed container will be loaded on a ship or train in the course of overseas international shipment.

(d) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including rules:

(1) governing application for a permit under this section; and

(2) requiring additional safety and driver training.

(e) The department shall set the amount of the fee for an annual permit issued under this section in an amount not to exceed \$7,000, of which:

(1) 90 percent shall be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund; and

1 (2) 10 percent shall be deposited to the credit of the
2 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.