

By: Canales

H.B. No. 347

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a pilot program for the issuance of digital identification.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 7, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Chapter 526 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 526. DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM

Sec. 526.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" and "driver's license" have the meanings assigned by Section 521.001.

(2) "Digital identification" includes digital driver's licenses and digital personal identification certificates.

Sec. 526.002. DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) If funds are appropriated for the purposes of this chapter, the department by rule shall establish a pilot program for the issuance of digital identification.

(b) In establishing the digital identification pilot program, the department shall:

(1) assess existing department infrastructure and identify changes required to implement the program;

(2) upgrade department infrastructure according to the department's findings under Subdivision (1);

(3) create a mobile application that:

1 (A) displays digital identification on a
2 wireless communication device; and

3 (B) includes an authentication and verification
4 process for a wireless communication device;

5 (4) deploy the digital identification mobile
6 application to department users for testing and evaluation; and

7 (5) on department approval, expand the deployment of
8 the digital identification mobile application to a small volunteer
9 group consisting of members of the public and implement a law
10 enforcement version of the application for field testing.

11 (c) The department may contract with another person to
12 establish the pilot program described by this section.

13 (d) The department shall prepare a report containing the
14 results of the pilot program and the department's recommendations.
15 The department shall submit the report to the Public Safety
16 Commission and the legislature not later than January 1, 2019.

17 Sec. 526.003. EXPIRATION. This chapter expires September
18 1, 2019.

19 SECTION 2. The Department of Public Safety shall adopt the
20 initial rules for the digital identification pilot program under
21 Chapter 526, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, not later
22 than December 1, 2017, if funds are appropriated for the purposes of
23 this chapter by an Act of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session,
24 2017.

25 SECTION 3. 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

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

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.