

1-1 By: Murphy (Senate Sponsor - Kolthorst) H.B. No. 561  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 27, 2017;  
 1-3 May 3, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Transportation; May 10, 2017, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 10, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the operation of certain vehicles used for package  
 1-20 delivery; authorizing a fee.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Chapter 551, Transportation Code, is amended by  
 1-23 adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

1-24 SUBCHAPTER G. PACKAGE DELIVERY VEHICLES

1-25 Sec. 551.451. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-26 (1) "All-terrain vehicle" has the meaning assigned by  
 1-27 Section 502.001.

1-28 (2) "Golf cart" has the meaning assigned by Section  
 1-29 502.001.

1-30 (3) "Motor carrier" has the meaning assigned by  
 1-31 Section 643.001.

1-32 (4) "Neighborhood electric vehicle" has the meaning  
 1-33 assigned by Section 551.301.

1-34 (5) "Public highway" has the meaning assigned by  
 1-35 Section 502.001.

1-36 (6) "Recreational off-highway vehicle" has the  
 1-37 meaning assigned by Section 502.001.

1-38 (7) "Utility vehicle" has the meaning assigned by  
 1-39 Section 551.401.

1-40 Sec. 551.452. LICENSE PLATES FOR PACKAGE DELIVERY VEHICLES.

1-41 (a) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may issue  
 1-42 distinguishing license plates for a vehicle operated by a motor  
 1-43 carrier for the purpose of picking up and delivering mail, parcels,  
 1-44 and packages if the vehicle:

1-45 (1) is:

1-46 (A) an all-terrain vehicle;

1-47 (B) a golf cart;

1-48 (C) a neighborhood electric vehicle;

1-49 (D) a recreational off-highway vehicle; or

1-50 (E) a utility vehicle; and

1-51 (2) is equipped with headlamps, taillamps,  
 1-52 reflectors, a parking brake, and mirrors, in addition to any other  
 1-53 equipment required by law.

1-54 (b) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles by rule shall  
 1-55 establish a procedure to issue the license plates to be used only  
 1-56 for operation in accordance with this subchapter.

1-57 (c) The license plates must include the words "Package  
 1-58 Delivery."

1-59 (d) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may charge a  
 1-60 license plate fee not to exceed \$25 annually to be deposited to the  
 1-61 credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.

2-1 Sec. 551.453. LIMITED OPERATION. (a) A motor carrier may  
2-2 operate, for the purpose of picking up or delivering mail, parcels,  
2-3 or packages, a vehicle bearing license plates issued under Section  
2-4 551.452 on a public highway that is not an interstate or a  
2-5 limited-access or controlled-access highway and that has a speed  
2-6 limit of not more than 35 miles per hour.

2-7 (b) The Department of Motor Vehicles may not require the  
2-8 registration of a vehicle operated under Subsection (a) unless the  
2-9 registration is required by other law.

2-10 Sec. 551.454. OPERATION ON PROPERTY OF SUBDIVISION OR  
2-11 CONDOMINIUM. (a) In this section:

2-12 (1) "Condominium" has the meaning assigned by Section  
2-13 82.003, Property Code.

2-14 (2) "Declaration" has the meaning assigned by Section  
2-15 82.003, Property Code.

2-16 (3) "Property owners' association" has the meaning  
2-17 assigned by Section 202.001, Property Code.

2-18 (4) "Restrictions" has the meaning assigned by Section  
2-19 209.002, Property Code.

2-20 (5) "Subdivision" has the meaning assigned by Section  
2-21 209.002, Property Code.

2-22 (b) A property owners' association may adopt reasonable  
2-23 safety and use rules for the operation, for the purpose of picking  
2-24 up or delivering mail, parcels, or packages, of a vehicle bearing  
2-25 license plates issued under Section 551.452 on the property of a  
2-26 subdivision or condominium managed or regulated by the association.

2-27 (c) A motor carrier may operate, for the purpose of picking  
2-28 up or delivering mail, parcels, or packages, a vehicle bearing  
2-29 license plates issued under Section 551.452 on the property of a  
2-30 subdivision subject to restrictions or a condominium that has in  
2-31 place a declaration, in a manner that complies with any applicable  
2-32 rules adopted by a property owners' association that manages or  
2-33 regulates the subdivision or condominium.

2-34 Sec. 551.455. OPERATION IN MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES.

2-35 (a) In addition to the operation authorized by Sections 551.453 and  
2-36 551.454, the governing body of a municipality may allow a motor  
2-37 carrier to operate, for the purpose of picking up or delivering  
2-38 mail, parcels, or packages, a vehicle bearing license plates issued  
2-39 under Section 551.452 on all or part of a public highway that:

2-40 (1) is in the corporate boundaries of the  
2-41 municipality; and

2-42 (2) has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per  
2-43 hour.

2-44 (b) In addition to the operation authorized by Sections  
2-45 551.453 and 551.454, a county commissioners court may allow a motor  
2-46 carrier to operate, for the purpose of picking up or delivering  
2-47 mail, parcels, or packages, a vehicle bearing license plates issued  
2-48 under Section 551.452 on all or part of a public highway that:

2-49 (1) is located in the unincorporated area of the  
2-50 county; and

2-51 (2) has a speed limit of not more than 35 miles per  
2-52 hour.

2-53 Sec. 551.456. CROSSING CERTAIN ROADWAYS. A vehicle bearing  
2-54 license plates issued under Section 551.452 may cross  
2-55 intersections, including on or through a road or street that has a  
2-56 speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.

2-57 Sec. 551.457. CONFLICTS. In the case of a conflict between  
2-58 this subchapter and other law, including Chapters 502 and 663, this  
2-59 subchapter controls.

2-60 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-61 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-62 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-63 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-64 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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