

By: Pickett

H.B. No. 1247

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice provided to vehicle owners and lienholders by operators of vehicle storage facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2303.151, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) The operator of a vehicle storage facility shall send a written notice required under Subsection (b) to an address obtained, by mail or electronically, either:

(1) directly from the governmental entity with which the vehicle is registered; or

(2) from a private entity authorized by that governmental entity to obtain title, registration, and lienholder information using a single vehicle identification number inquiry submitted through a secure access portal to the governmental entity's motor vehicle records.

SECTION 2. Section 2303.152, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) Notice by publication is not required if the operator of the vehicle storage facility obtains, by mail or electronically:

(1) a report from the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System operated by the United States Department of Justice, or a successor system, showing the state in which the vehicle is titled; and

1           (2) a report showing that no record of a registered  
2 owner or lienholder of record was found, either:

3                   (A) directly from the governmental entity with  
4 which the vehicle is titled or registered; or

5                   (B) from a private entity authorized by the  
6 governmental entity with which the vehicle is titled or registered  
7 to obtain title, registration, and lienholder information using a  
8 single vehicle identification number inquiry submitted through a  
9 secure access portal to the governmental entity's motor vehicle  
10 records.

11           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.