

1-1 By: Goldman, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 1249
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2017;
 1-3 May 8, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Transportation; May 15, 2017, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 15, 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 a prohibition of certain motor vehicles resembling
 1-20 emergency medical services vehicles; creating a criminal offense.

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

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 773, Health and Safety
 1-23 Code, is amended by adding Section 773.017 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 773.017. USE OF CERTAIN EXTERNAL MOTOR VEHICLE
 1-25 MARKINGS OR FEATURES PROHIBITED; CRIMINAL OFFENSE. (a) A person
 1-26 may not operate a motor vehicle in this state that resembles an
 1-27 emergency medical services vehicle unless the person uses the motor
 1-28 vehicle:

1-29 (1) as an emergency medical services vehicle under
 1-30 this chapter; or

1-31 (2) for other legitimate governmental functions,
 1-32 including police or firefighting services.

1-33 (b) A motor vehicle resembles an emergency medical services
 1-34 vehicle if the motor vehicle has on the exterior of the motor
 1-35 vehicle any of the following markings or features:

1-36 (1) the word "ambulance" or a derivation of that word;

1-37 (2) a star of life as trademarked by the National
 1-38 Highway Traffic Safety Administration;

1-39 (3) a Maltese cross commonly used by fire departments;

1-40 (4) forward-facing flashing red, white, or blue
 1-41 lights;

1-42 (5) a siren;

1-43 (6) the words "critical care transport," "emergency,"
 1-44 "emergency medical services," or "mobile intensive care unit"; or

1-45 (7) the acronym "EMS" or "MICU".

1-46 (c) A person commits an offense if the person violates this
 1-47 section. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

1-48 (d) This section does not apply to a motor vehicle bearing a
 1-49 license plate issued or approved under Section 504.501 or 504.502,
 1-50 Transportation Code.

1-51 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-52 * * * * *