

1-1 By: Thompson of Harris, Morrison H.B. No. 1959
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Taylor of Galveston)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2017;
 1-4 May 10, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Transportation; May 19, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-6 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
 1-7 May 19, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9				
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1959 By: Hinojosa

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to alternative registration technologies for commercial
 1-23 motor vehicles.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Chapter 1003, Transportation Code, is amended by
 1-26 adding Sections 1003.006 and 1003.007 to read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 1003.006. STUDY ON REGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR
 1-28 VEHICLES. (a) The department shall:

1-29 (1) conduct a study that:

1-30 (A) identifies and assesses alternative
 1-31 technologies for registering commercial motor vehicles to replace
 1-32 license plates, permits, and other existing documentation and
 1-33 registration methods currently in use in this state; and

1-34 (B) evaluates the safety and suitability for use
 1-35 on roadways of the technologies identified under Paragraph (A); and

1-36 (2) submit a report on the results of the study to the
 1-37 governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of
 1-38 representatives, and presiding officer of each legislative
 1-39 standing committee with primary jurisdiction over transportation
 1-40 issues not later than December 1, 2021.

1-41 (b) The department may collaborate with another state
 1-42 agency or a research division of an institution of higher education
 1-43 in this state to conduct the study.

1-44 (c) This section expires January 1, 2023.

1-45 Sec. 1003.007. PILOT PROGRAM FOR REGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL

1-46 VEHICLES. (a) The department, in consultation with a state agency
 1-47 or research division of an institution of higher education in this
 1-48 state, may establish a limited pilot program that identifies,
 1-49 implements, and assesses alternative technologies for registering
 1-50 commercial motor vehicles to replace license plates, permits, and
 1-51 other existing documentation and registration methods currently in
 1-52 use in this state if the department determines that the program can
 1-53 be implemented at no cost to the state and that the results of the
 1-54 study conducted under Section 1003.006 indicate that the program is
 1-55 feasible.

1-56 (b) The program must:

1-57 (1) evaluate the safety and suitability for use on
 1-58 roadways of the alternative technologies identified under
 1-59 Subsection (a); and

1-60 (2) be funded through contributions by participants

2-1 who voluntarily opt into the program.

2-2 (c) Not later than December 1, 2022, the department shall
2-3 submit a report on the results of the program to the governor,
2-4 lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and
2-5 presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with
2-6 primary jurisdiction over transportation issues.

2-7 (d) This section expires January 1, 2023.

2-8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-12 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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