

By: Hernandez

H.B. No. 2371

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the release of a motor vehicle accident report to a  
3 first lienholder of a vehicle damaged in the accident described by  
4 the report.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 550.065(c), Transportation Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (c) On written request and payment of any required fee, the  
9 department or the governmental entity shall release the information  
10 to:

11 (1) an entity described by Subsection (b);  
12 (2) the law enforcement agency that employs the peace  
13 officer who investigated the accident and sent the information to  
14 the department, including an agent of the law enforcement agency  
15 authorized by contract to obtain the information;

16 (3) the court in which a case involving a person  
17 involved in the accident is pending if the report is subpoenaed; or

18 (4) any person directly concerned in the accident or  
19 having a proper interest therein, including:

20 (A) any person involved in the accident;  
21 (B) the authorized representative of any person  
22 involved in the accident;

23 (C) a driver involved in the accident;

24 (D) an employer, parent, or legal guardian of a

1 driver involved in the accident;

2 (E) the owner of a vehicle or property damaged in  
3 the accident;

4 (F) a person who has established financial  
5 responsibility for a vehicle involved in the accident in a manner  
6 described by Section 601.051, including a policyholder of a motor  
7 vehicle liability insurance policy covering the vehicle;

8 (G) an insurance company that issued an insurance  
9 policy covering a vehicle involved in the accident;

10 (H) an insurance company that issued a policy  
11 covering any person involved in the accident;

12 (I) a person under contract to provide claims or  
13 underwriting information to a person described by Paragraph (F),  
14 (G), or (H);

15 (J) a radio or television station that holds a  
16 license issued by the Federal Communications Commission;

17 (K) a newspaper that is:

18 (i) a free newspaper of general circulation  
19 or qualified under Section 2051.044, Government Code, to publish  
20 legal notices;

21 (ii) published at least once a week; and

22 (iii) available and of interest to the  
23 general public in connection with the dissemination of news; ~~or~~

24 (L) any person who may sue because of death  
25 resulting from the accident; or

26 (M) the first lienholder of a vehicle damaged in  
27 the accident, including:

1                   (i) a vehicle storage facility that is  
2 licensed under Chapter 2303, Occupations Code, and is the first  
3 lienholder of the vehicle; and

4                   (ii) a towing company that is licensed  
5 under Chapter 2308, Occupations Code, and is the first lienholder  
6 of the vehicle.

7           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.