

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 3087

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the definitions of highway maintenance and service vehicles for purposes of certain provisions governing vehicle equipment.

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

SECTION 1. Section 547.001, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (2-b) and (6-a) to read as follows:

(2-b) "Highway maintenance vehicle" means a highway or traffic maintenance vehicle designated by the Texas Department of Transportation. The term includes equipment for:

(A) road maintenance, including:

(i) equipment for snow removal, line striping, skid resistance testing, sweeping, and spraying;

(ii) aerial devices; and

(iii) high-speed profilometers; and

(B) off-road use, including motor graders, road rollers, excavators, pneumatic tire equipment, movers, and tractors.

(6-a) "Service vehicle" means a highway or traffic maintenance vehicle that:

(A) is owned and operated on a highway by or for a governmental agency and performs a function requiring the use of a lamp or illuminating device in accordance with the standards and specifications adopted under Section 547.105; or

1 (B) has a public service function, including
2 public utility vehicles, tow trucks, and any vehicle designated as
3 a service vehicle by the Texas Department of Transportation or as an
4 escort flag vehicle under Section 623.099.

5 SECTION 2. The heading to Section 547.105, Transportation
6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 547.105. MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE VEHICLE [~~EQUIPMENT~~]
8 LIGHTING STANDARDS.

9 SECTION 3. Sections 547.105(a) and (b), Transportation
10 Code, are amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The Texas Department of Transportation shall adopt
12 standards and specifications that:

13 (1) apply to lamps on highway maintenance and service
14 vehicles [~~equipment, including snow-removal equipment~~]; and

15 (2) correlate with and conform as closely as possible
16 to standards and specifications approved by the American
17 Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

18 (b) The Texas Department of Transportation may adopt
19 standards and specifications for lighting that permit the use of
20 flashing lights for identification purposes on highway maintenance
21 and service vehicles [~~equipment, including snow-removal~~
22 ~~equipment~~].

23 SECTION 4. Section 547.305(e), Transportation Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (e) A person may not operate a highway maintenance or
26 service vehicle [~~equipment, including snow-removal equipment,~~]
27 that is not equipped with lamps or that does not display lighted

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1 lamps as required by the standards and specifications adopted by
2 the Texas Department of Transportation.

3 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.