

By: Pickett

H.B. No. 3777

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to fees collected for processing and handling vehicle registration applications.

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

SECTION 1. ~~Sec. 502.1911. REGISTRATION PROCESSING AND HANDLING FEE. (a) The department may collect a fee, in addition to other registration fees for the issuance of a license plate, a set of license plates, or another device used as the registration insignia, to cover the expenses of collecting those registration fees, including a service charge for registration by mail.~~

~~(b) The board by rule shall set the fee in an amount that:~~

~~(1) includes the fee established under Section 502.356(a), and~~

~~(2) is sufficient to cover the expenses associated with collecting registration fees by:~~

~~(A) the department,~~

~~(B) a county tax assessor-collector,~~

~~(C) a private entity with which a county tax assessor-collector contracts under Section 502.197, or~~

~~(D) a deputy assessor-collector that is deputized in accordance with board rule under Section 520.0071.~~

~~(c) The county tax assessor-collector, a private entity with which a county tax assessor-collector contracts under Section 502.197, or a deputy assessor-collector may retain a portion of the~~

~~fee collected under Subsection (b) as provided by board rule. Remaining amounts collected under this section shall be deposited to the credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.~~

SECTION 2. Section 502.197(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) With the approval of the commissioners court of a county, a county assessor-collector may contract with a private entity to enable an applicant for registration to use an electronic off-premises location. A private entity may collect a service charge in ~~[retain]~~ an amount determined by the board ~~[under Section 502.1911]~~ for the service provided.

SECTION 3. Section 502.198(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Sections 502.058, 502.060, ~~[502.1911]~~ 502.192, and 502.357, this section applies to all fees collected by a county assessor-collector under this chapter.

SECTION 4. Sections 520.006(a) and (a-1), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A county assessor-collector shall collect a service charge of \$1.95 from each applicant registering a vehicle ~~[retain an amount determined by the board under Section 502.1911 for each receipt issued]~~ under Chapter 502.

(a-1) A county assessor-collector collecting fees on behalf of a county that has been declared as a disaster area or that is closed for a protracted period of time as defined by the department for purposes of Section 501.023 or 502.040 may retain the service charge authorized under Subsection (a) and any other commission for

1 fees collected under Chapter 501 or 502, but shall allocate any
2 other ~~[the]~~ fees that county assessor-collectors are authorized to
3 retain under Chapter 501 or 502 to the county declared as a disaster
4 area or that is closed for a protracted period of time.

5 SECTION 5. Sections 502.191(f) and 502.197(a),
6 Transportation Code, are repealed.

7 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.