

1-1 By: Rodríguez S.B. No. 2075
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2017; March 28, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;
 1-4 April 24, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 24, 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 vehicle registration.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 91.905, Natural Resources Code, is
 1-22 amended to read as follows:

1-23 Sec. 91.905. APPLICATION OF OTHER LAW. Section 212.153(e),
 1-24 Local Government Code, and Sections 203.092 and ~~224.008~~, ~~and~~
 1-25 ~~502.1981(e)(4)~~, Transportation Code, apply to saltwater pipeline
 1-26 operators and saltwater pipeline facilities in the same manner as
 1-27 they apply to utilities and utility facilities.

1-28 SECTION 2. Section 502.001(2), Transportation Code, is
 1-29 amended to read as follows:

1-30 (2) "Apportioned license plate" means a license plate
 1-31 issued in lieu of a truck, motor bus, ~~license plate~~ or combination
 1-32 license plate to a motor carrier in this state who proportionally
 1-33 registers a vehicle owned or leased by the carrier in one or more
 1-34 other states.

1-35 SECTION 3. Section 502.0023, Transportation Code, is
 1-36 amended by amending Subsections (c) and (e) and adding Subsection
 1-37 (c-1) to read as follows:

1-38 (c) In addition to the registration fees prescribed by this
 1-39 chapter, an owner registering a commercial fleet under this section
 1-40 shall pay:

1-41 (1) a one-time ~~an annual commercial fleet~~
 1-42 ~~registration~~ fee of \$10 per motor vehicle, semitrailer, or trailer
 1-43 in the fleet; and

1-44 (2) except as provided by Subsection (e), a one-time
 1-45 license plate manufacturing fee of \$1.50 for each fleet motor
 1-46 vehicle, semitrailer, or trailer license plate.

1-47 (c-1) A fee collected under Subsection (c) shall be
 1-48 deposited to the credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
 1-49 fund.

1-50 (e) In addition to all other applicable registration fees,
 1-51 an owner registering a commercial fleet under this section shall
 1-52 pay a one-time license plate manufacturing fee of \$8 for each set of
 1-53 plates issued that includes on the legend the name or logo of the
 1-54 business entity that owns the vehicle instead of the fee imposed by
 1-55 Subsection (c)(2). A license plate manufacturing fee collected
 1-56 under this section shall be deposited to the credit of the Texas
 1-57 Department of Motor Vehicles fund.

1-58 SECTION 4. Section 502.040(b), Transportation Code, is
 1-59 amended to read as follows:

1-60 (b) The application must be accompanied by personal
 1-61 identification as determined by department rule and made in a

2-1 manner prescribed by the department:

2-2 (1) through the county assessor-collector of the
2-3 county in which the owner resides; or

2-4 (2) if the office of that assessor-collector is
2-5 closed, or may be closed for a protracted period of time, as defined
2-6 by department rule, through a [if the county in which the owner
2-7 resides has been declared by the governor as a disaster area,
2-8 through the county assessor-collector of a county that is one of the
2-9 closest unaffected counties to a county that asks for assistance
2-10 and:

2-11 [~~(A) continues to be declared by the governor as~~
2-12 ~~a disaster area because the county has been rendered inoperable by~~
2-13 ~~the disaster, and~~

2-14 [~~(B) is inoperable for a protracted period of~~
2-15 ~~time, or~~

2-16 [~~(3) if the county assessor-collector's office in~~
2-17 ~~which the owner resides is closed for a protracted period of time as~~
2-18 ~~defined by the department, to the] county assessor-collector [~~of a~~
2-19 ~~county that borders the county in which the owner resides] who is
2-20 willing [agrees] to accept the application.~~~~

2-21 SECTION 5. Section 502.057, Transportation Code, is amended
2-22 to read as follows:

2-23 Sec. 502.057. REGISTRATION RECEIPT. (a) The department
2-24 shall issue or require to be issued to the owner of a vehicle
2-25 registered under this chapter a registration receipt showing the
2-26 information required by rule.

2-27 (b) A receipt for the renewed registration of a vehicle
2-28 generated by an online registration system approved by the
2-29 department is proof of the vehicle's registration until the 31st
2-30 day after the date of renewal on the receipt.

2-31 SECTION 6. Section 502.060(b), Transportation Code, is
2-32 amended to read as follows:

2-33 (b) No fee is required under this section if:

2-34 (1) the replacement fee for a license plate has been
2-35 paid under Section 504.007; or

2-36 (2) the county assessor-collector determines that the
2-37 owner paid for a prior replacement registration insignia for the
2-38 same registration period that was mailed to the owner but not
2-39 received by the owner.

2-40 SECTION 7. Section 502.091(b), Transportation Code, is
2-41 amended to read as follows:

2-42 (b) The department may adopt and enforce rules to carry out
2-43 the International Registration Plan or other agreement under this
2-44 section. The rules may require an applicant to register under the
2-45 unified carrier registration system as defined by Section 643.001
2-46 before the applicant applies for registration under the
2-47 International Registration Plan.

2-48 SECTION 8. Sections 502.146(a) and (h), Transportation
2-49 Code, are amended to read as follows:

2-50 (a) The department shall issue distinguishing [specialty]
2-51 license plates to a vehicle described by Subsection (b) or (c). The
2-52 fee for the license plates is \$5 and shall be deposited to the
2-53 credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.

2-54 (h) A distinguishing [specialty] license plate may not be
2-55 issued or renewed under Subsection (a) to an owner of a vehicle
2-56 described by Subsection (b)(1) unless the vehicle's owner provides
2-57 a registration number issued by the comptroller under Section
2-58 151.1551, Tax Code, or the vehicle is owned by a farmers'
2-59 cooperative society incorporated under Chapter 51, Agriculture
2-60 Code, or a marketing association organized under Chapter 52,
2-61 Agriculture Code. The comptroller shall allow access to the online
2-62 system established under Section 151.1551(l), Tax Code, to verify a
2-63 registration number provided under this subsection.

2-64 SECTION 9. Section 502.198, Transportation Code, is amended
2-65 to read as follows:

2-66 Sec. 502.198. DISPOSITION OF FEES GENERALLY. (a) Except
2-67 as provided by Sections 502.058, 502.060, 502.1911, 502.192,
2-68 502.356, and 502.357 and Subchapter H, this section applies to all
2-69 fees collected by a county assessor-collector under this chapter.

3-1 (b) Each Tuesday [~~Monday~~], a county assessor-collector
3-2 shall credit to the county road and bridge fund an amount equal to
3-3 the net collections made during the preceding week until the amount
3-4 so credited for the calendar year equals the total of:

- 3-5 (1) \$60,000; and
- 3-6 (2) \$350 for each mile of county road maintained by the
- 3-7 county, according to the most recent information available from the
- 3-8 department, not to exceed 500 miles[~~, and~~
- 3-9 [~~(3) an additional amount of fees equal to the amount~~
- 3-10 ~~calculated under Section 502.1981].~~

3-11 (c) After the credits to the county road and bridge fund
3-12 equal the total computed under Subsection (b), each Tuesday
3-13 [~~Monday~~] the county assessor-collector shall:

- 3-14 (1) credit to the county road and bridge fund an amount
- 3-15 equal to 50 percent of the net collections made during the preceding
- 3-16 week, until the amount so credited for the calendar year equals
- 3-17 \$125,000; and
- 3-18 (2) send to the department an amount equal to 50
- 3-19 percent of those collections for deposit to the credit of the state
- 3-20 highway fund.

3-21 (d) After the credits to the county road and bridge fund
3-22 equal the total amounts computed under Subsections (b) and (c)(1),
3-23 each Tuesday [~~Monday~~] the county assessor-collector shall send to
3-24 the department all collections made during the preceding week for
3-25 deposit to the credit of the state highway fund.

3-26 SECTION 10. Section 502.1983(a), Transportation Code, is
3-27 amended to read as follows:

3-28 (a) A [~~Except as provided by Section 502.357, a~~] county
3-29 assessor-collector may:

- 3-30 (1) deposit the fees subject to Section 502.198 in an
- 3-31 interest-bearing account or certificate in the county depository;
- 3-32 and
- 3-33 (2) send the fees to the department not later than the
- 3-34 34th day after the date the fees are due under Section 502.198
- 3-35 [~~502.357~~].

3-36 SECTION 11. Section 502.433(a-1), Transportation Code, is
3-37 amended to read as follows:

3-38 (a-1) A commercial motor vehicle registration may not be
3-39 issued or renewed [~~registered~~] under this section unless the
3-40 vehicle's owner provides a registration number issued by the
3-41 comptroller under Section 151.1551, Tax Code. The comptroller
3-42 shall allow access to the online system established under Section
3-43 151.1551(l), Tax Code, to verify a registration number provided
3-44 under this subsection.

3-45 SECTION 12. Section 504.007, Transportation Code, is
3-46 amended by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

3-47 (g) No fee is required under this section if the county
3-48 assessor-collector determines that the owner paid for prior
3-49 replacement license plates for the same vehicle that were mailed to
3-50 the owner but not received by the owner.

3-51 SECTION 13. Section 504.202(b), Transportation Code, is
3-52 amended to read as follows:

3-53 (b) A veteran of the United States armed forces is entitled
3-54 to register, for the person's own use, motor vehicles under this
3-55 section if:

- 3-56 (1) the person has suffered, as a result of military
- 3-57 service:
 - 3-58 (A) at least a 50 percent service-connected
 - 3-59 disability; or
 - 3-60 (B) a 40 percent service-connected disability
 - 3-61 because of the amputation of a lower extremity;
- 3-62 (2) the person receives compensation from the United
- 3-63 States because of the disability; and
- 3-64 (3) the motor vehicle:
 - 3-65 (A) is owned by the person; and
 - 3-66 (B) has a gross vehicle weight of 18,000 pounds
 - 3-67 or less or is a motor home.

3-68 SECTION 14. Section 520.006(a-1), Transportation Code, is
3-69 amended to read as follows:

4-1 (a-1) A county assessor-collector collecting fees on behalf
4-2 of a county assessor-collector whose office [~~that has been declared~~
4-3 ~~as a disaster area or that~~] is closed or may be closed for a
4-4 protracted period of time as defined by the department for purposes
4-5 of Section 501.023 or 502.040 may retain the commission for fees
4-6 collected, but shall allocate the fees to the county [~~declared as a~~
4-7 ~~disaster area or~~] that is closed or may be closed for a protracted
4-8 period of time.

4-9 SECTION 15. Section 623.144, Transportation Code, is
4-10 amended to read as follows:

4-11 Sec. 623.144. REGISTRATION OF VEHICLE. (a) A person may
4-12 not operate a vehicle permitted under this subchapter on a public
4-13 highway unless the vehicle is registered under Chapter 502 for the
4-14 maximum gross weight applicable to the vehicle under Section
4-15 621.101 or has distinguishing [~~specialty~~] license plates as
4-16 provided by Section 502.146 if applicable to the vehicle.

4-17 (b) The department may not issue distinguishing [~~specialty~~]
4-18 license plates to a vehicle described by Section 502.146(b)(3)
4-19 unless the applicant complies with the requirements of that
4-20 subsection.

4-21 SECTION 16. Sections 502.1585 and 502.1981, Transportation
4-22 Code, are repealed.

4-23 SECTION 17. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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