

By: Rodríguez

S.B. No. 2076

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the titling of motor vehicles; creating a criminal
3 offense and authorizing fees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 501.002(30), Transportation Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (30) "Travel trailer" means a house trailer-type
8 vehicle or a camper trailer:

9 (A) that is a recreational vehicle defined under
10 24 C.F.R. Section 3282.8(g); or

11 (B) that:

12 (i) is less than eight feet six inches in
13 width or 45 [~~40~~] feet in length, exclusive of any hitch installed on
14 the vehicle;

15 (ii) is designed primarily for use as
16 temporary living quarters in connection with recreational,
17 camping, travel, or seasonal use;

18 (iii) is not used as a permanent dwelling;
19 and

20 (iv) is not a utility trailer, enclosed
21 trailer, or other trailer that does not have human habitation as its
22 primary function.

23 SECTION 2. Section 501.004(b), Transportation Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 (b) This chapter does not apply to:

2 (1) a farm trailer or farm semitrailer with a gross
3 vehicle weight of not more than 34,000 pounds used only for the
4 transportation of farm products if the products are not transported
5 for hire;

6 (2) the filing or recording of a lien that is created
7 only on an automobile accessory, including a tire, radio, or
8 heater;

9 (3) a motor vehicle while it is owned or operated by
10 the United States; or

11 (4) a new motor vehicle on loan to a political
12 subdivision of the state for use only in a driver education course
13 conducted by an entity exempt from licensure under Section
14 [1001.002](#), Education Code.

15 SECTION 3. Section [501.021\(a\)](#), Transportation Code, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (a) A motor vehicle title issued by the department must
18 include:

19 (1) the legal name and address of each purchaser [~~and~~
20 ~~seller at the first sale or a subsequent sale~~];

21 (2) the legal name of each seller and the municipality
22 and state in which each seller is located or resides [~~make of the~~
23 ~~motor vehicle~~];

24 (3) the year, make, and body style [~~type~~] of the
25 vehicle;

26 (4) the [~~manufacturer's~~ permanent] vehicle
27 identification number of the vehicle [~~or the vehicle's motor number~~

1 ~~if the vehicle was manufactured before the date that stamping a~~
2 ~~permanent identification number on a motor vehicle was universally~~
3 ~~adopted];~~

4 (5) if the vehicle is subject to odometer disclosure
5 under Section 501.072, the odometer reading and odometer brand as
6 recorded on the last title assignment [~~serial number~~] for the
7 vehicle;

8 (6) the name and address of each lienholder and the
9 date of each lien on the vehicle, listed in the chronological order
10 in which the lien was recorded;

11 (7) a statement indicating rights of survivorship
12 under Section 501.031; and

13 (8) [~~if the vehicle has an odometer, the odometer~~
14 ~~reading at the time of application for the title; and~~

15 [~~9~~] any other information required by the
16 department.

17 SECTION 4. Section 501.023(a), Transportation Code, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The owner of a motor vehicle must present identification
20 and apply for a title as prescribed by the department, unless
21 otherwise exempted by law. To obtain a title, the owner must apply:

22 (1) to the county assessor-collector in the county in
23 which:

24 (A) the owner is domiciled; or

25 (B) the motor vehicle is purchased or encumbered;

26 or

27 (2) [~~if the county in which the owner resides has been~~

1 ~~declared by the governor as a disaster area, to the county~~
2 ~~assessor-collector in one of the closest unaffected counties to a~~
3 ~~county that asks for assistance and:~~

4 ~~[(A) continues to be declared by the governor as~~
5 ~~a disaster area because the county has been rendered inoperable by~~
6 ~~the disaster, and~~

7 ~~[(B) is inoperable for a protracted period of~~
8 ~~time; or~~

9 ~~[(3) if the county assessor-collector's office of the~~
10 ~~county in which the owner resides is closed for a protracted period~~
11 ~~of time as defined by the department,] to the county~~
12 ~~assessor-collector of a county [that borders the county in which~~
13 ~~the owner resides] who is willing [~~agrees~~] to accept the~~
14 ~~application if the county assessor-collector's office of the county~~
15 ~~in which the owner resides is closed or may be closed for a~~
16 ~~protracted period of time as defined by the department.~~

17 SECTION 5. Section 501.030(a), Transportation Code, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) Before a motor vehicle that was last registered or
20 titled in another state or country may be titled in this state, the
21 county assessor-collector shall verify that the vehicle has passed
22 the inspections required by Chapter 548, as indicated in the
23 Department of Public Safety's inspection database under Section
24 548.251, or that the owner has obtained an identification number
25 inspection in accordance with department rule.

26 SECTION 6. The heading to Section 501.032, Transportation
27 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 Sec. 501.032. [~~ASSIGNMENT OF VEHICLE~~] IDENTIFICATION
2 NUMBER INSPECTION REQUIRED [~~BY DEPARTMENT~~].

3 SECTION 7. Sections 501.032(a) and (b), Transportation
4 Code, are amended to read as follows:

5 (a) In addition to any requirement established by
6 department rule, a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer must have
7 an identification number inspection under Section 501.0321 if:

8 (1) the department does not have a record of title for
9 the vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer in the department's
10 registration and title system, and the owner of the vehicle,
11 trailer, or semitrailer is filing a bond with the department under
12 Section 501.053;

13 (2) the vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer was last
14 titled or registered outside of the United States and imported into
15 the United States; or

16 (3) the owner or person claiming ownership requires an
17 assigned or reassigned identification number under Section 501.033
18 ~~[On proper application, the department shall assign a vehicle~~
19 ~~identification number to a travel trailer, a trailer or~~
20 ~~semitrailer, a frame, or an item of equipment, including a tractor,~~
21 ~~farm implement, unit of special mobile equipment, or unit of~~
22 ~~off-road construction equipment:~~

23 ~~[(1) on which a vehicle identification number was not~~
24 ~~die-stamped by the manufacturer,~~

25 ~~[(2) on which a vehicle identification number~~
26 ~~die-stamped by the manufacturer has been lost, removed, or~~
27 ~~obliterated, or~~

1 ~~[(3) for which a vehicle identification number was~~
2 ~~never assigned].~~

3 (b) An active duty member of a branch of the United States
4 armed forces, or an immediate family member of such a member,
5 returning to Texas with acceptable proof of the active duty status
6 is exempt from an identification number inspection required under
7 Subsection (a)(2) [The applicant shall die-stamp the assigned
8 vehicle identification number at the place designated by the
9 department on the travel trailer, trailer, semitrailer, frame, or
10 equipment].

11 SECTION 8. Subchapter B, Chapter 501, Transportation Code,
12 is amended by adding Sections 501.0321 and 501.0322 to read as
13 follows:

14 Sec. 501.0321. IDENTIFICATION NUMBER INSPECTION. (a) An
15 inspection required under Section 501.032 must verify, as
16 applicable, the identity of:

17 (1) a motor vehicle;
18 (2) a trailer or semitrailer;
19 (3) a frame, body, or motor of a motor vehicle; or
20 (4) an item of equipment not required to be titled but
21 that may be registered under Chapter 502 or issued licensed plates
22 under Chapter 504.

23 (b) An inspection under this section may not rely solely on
24 the public identification number to verify the identity.

25 (c) An inspection under this section may be performed only
26 by a person who has successfully completed an appropriate training
27 program as determined by department rule and is:

1 (1) an auto theft investigator who is a law
2 enforcement officer of this state or a political subdivision of
3 this state;

4 (2) a person working under the direct supervision of a
5 person described by Subdivision (1); or

6 (3) an employee of the department authorized by the
7 department to perform an inspection under this section.

8 (d) The department shall prescribe a form on which the
9 identification number inspection is to be recorded. The department
10 may provide the form only to a person described by Subsection (c).

11 (e) The department or another entity that provides an
12 inspection under this section may impose a fee of not more than \$40
13 for the inspection. The county or municipal treasurer of a county
14 or municipal entity that provides an inspection under this section
15 shall credit the fee to the general fund of the county or
16 municipality, as applicable, to defray the entity's cost associated
17 with the inspection. If the department provides an inspection
18 under this section, the fee shall be deposited to the credit of the
19 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund.

20 (f) The department may not impose a fee for an inspection
21 requested by the department. The department shall include a
22 notification of the waiver to the owner at the time the department
23 requests the identification number inspection.

24 Sec. 501.0322. ALTERNATIVE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
25 INSPECTION. The department by rule may establish a process for
26 verifying the identity of an item listed in Section 501.0321(a) as
27 an alternative to an identification number inspection under Section

1 501.0321. The rules may include the persons authorized to perform
2 the inspection, when an alternative inspection under this section
3 is required, and any fees that may be assessed. Any fee authorized
4 must comply with Sections 501.0321(e) and (f).

5 SECTION 9. Section 501.033, Transportation Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 501.033. ASSIGNMENT AND REASSIGNMENT OF
8 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER BY DEPARTMENT. (a) If the permanent
9 identification number affixed by the manufacturer has been removed,
10 altered, or obliterated, or a permanent identification number was
11 never assigned, the department shall assign an identification
12 number to [~~A person determined by law enforcement or a court to be~~
13 ~~the owner of]~~ a motor vehicle, [~~travel trailer,~~] semitrailer, [~~or~~
14 ~~trailer, engine~~ [~~a part of a motor vehicle~~], [~~travel trailer,~~
15 ~~semitrailer, or trailer,~~ a] frame, or body of a motor vehicle, or an
16 item of equipment not required to be titled but that may be
17 registered or issued license plates under Chapter 502 on inspection
18 under Section 501.0321 and application to the department [~~including~~
19 ~~a tractor, farm implement, unit of special mobile equipment, or~~
20 ~~unit of off-road construction equipment may apply to the department~~
21 ~~for an assigned vehicle identification number that has been~~
22 ~~removed, altered, obliterated, or has never been assigned].~~

23 (b) An application under this section must be in a manner
24 prescribed by the department and accompanied by valid evidence of
25 ownership in the name of, or properly assigned to, the applicant as
26 required by the department.

27 (c) A fee of \$2 must accompany each application under this

1 section to be deposited in the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
2 fund.

3 (d) The assigned [~~vehicle~~] identification number shall be
4 die-stamped or otherwise affixed in the manner and location
5 designated by the department.

6 (e) The department shall reassign an original
7 manufacturer's identification number only if the person who
8 conducts the inspection under Section 501.0321 determines that the
9 permanent identification number affixed by the manufacturer has
10 been removed, altered, or obliterated [~~If the auto theft unit of a~~
11 ~~county or municipal law enforcement agency conducts an inspection~~
12 ~~required by the department under this section, the agency may~~
13 ~~impose a fee of \$40. The county or municipal treasurer shall credit~~
14 ~~the fee to the general fund of the county or municipality, as~~
15 ~~applicable, to defray the agency's cost associated with the~~
16 ~~inspection. The fee shall be waived by the department or agency~~
17 ~~imposing the fee if the person applying under this section is the~~
18 ~~current registered owner~~].

19 (f) If the department reassigns a manufacturer's
20 identification number, a representative of the department shall
21 affix the number in a manner and location designated by the
22 department.

23 (g) On affixing an assigned identification number or
24 witnessing the affixing of a reassigned identification number, the
25 owner shall certify on a form prescribed by the department that the
26 identification number has been affixed in the manner and location
27 designated by the department and shall submit the form in a manner

1 prescribed by the department.

2 (h) Only the department may issue an identification number
3 to a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, engine, frame, or body of
4 a motor vehicle, or an item of equipment not required to be titled
5 but that may be registered or issued license plates under Chapter
6 502. The department may not recognize an identification number
7 assigned by any other agency or political subdivision of this
8 state.

9 SECTION 10. Section 501.036, Transportation Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 Sec. 501.036. TITLE FOR FARM TRAILER OR FARM SEMITRAILER.

12 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the
13 department may issue a title for a farm trailer or farm semitrailer
14 with a gross vehicle weight of not more than 34,000 [~~4,000~~] pounds
15 if [~~+~~

16 [~~(1) the farm semitrailer is eligible for registration~~
17 ~~under Section 502.146, and~~

18 [~~(2)~~] all [~~other~~] requirements for issuance of a title
19 are met.

20 (b) To obtain a title under this section, the owner [~~of the~~
21 ~~farm semitrailer~~] must:

22 (1) apply for the title in the manner required by
23 Section 501.023; and

24 (2) pay the fee required by Section 501.138.

25 (c) A subsequent purchaser of a farm trailer or farm
26 semitrailer titled previously under this section or in another
27 jurisdiction must obtain a title under [~~The department shall adopt~~

1 ~~rules to implement and administer]~~ this section.

2 SECTION 11. Section 501.037, Transportation Code, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 501.037. TITLE FOR TRAILERS OR SEMITRAILERS. (a)
5 Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the department
6 may issue a title for a trailer or semitrailer that has a gross
7 vehicle weight of 4,000 pounds or less if all other requirements for
8 issuance of a title are met.

9 (b) To obtain a title under this section, the owner of the
10 trailer or semitrailer must:

11 (1) apply for the title in the manner required by
12 Section 501.023; and

13 (2) pay the fee required by Section 501.138.

14 (c) A subsequent purchaser of a trailer or semitrailer
15 titled previously under this section or in another jurisdiction
16 must obtain a title under this section.

17 SECTION 12. Section 501.071(a), Transportation Code, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) Except as provided by Sections 503.036 and ~~[in Section]~~
20 503.039, a motor vehicle may not be the subject of a subsequent sale
21 unless the owner designated on the title submits a transfer of
22 ownership of the title.

23 SECTION 13. Section 501.072, Transportation Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

25 Sec. 501.072. ODOMETER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. (a) Except
26 as provided by Subsection (c), the transferor ~~[seller]~~ of a motor
27 vehicle transferred ~~[sold]~~ in this state shall provide to the

1 transferee [~~buyer, on a form prescribed by the department,~~] a
2 [~~written~~] disclosure of the vehicle's odometer reading at the time
3 of the transfer in compliance with 49 C.F.R. Part 580 [~~sale. The~~
4 ~~form must include space for the signature and printed name of both~~
5 ~~the seller and buyer~~].

6 (b) When application for a [~~certificate of~~] title is made,
7 the transferee [~~owner~~] shall record the [~~current~~] odometer reading
8 on the application. The [~~written~~] disclosure required by
9 Subsection (a) must accompany the application.

10 (c) An odometer disclosure statement is not required for the
11 transfer [~~sale~~] of a motor vehicle that is exempt from odometer
12 disclosure requirements under 49 C.F.R. Section 580.17 [~~+~~

13 [~~(1) has a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of~~
14 ~~more than two tons,~~

15 [~~(2) is not self-propelled,~~

16 [~~(3) is 10 or more years old,~~

17 [~~(4) is sold directly by the manufacturer to an agency~~
18 ~~of the United States government in conformity with contractual~~
19 ~~specifications, or~~

20 [~~(5) is a new motor vehicle~~].

21 (d) The department shall provide for use consistent with 49
22 C.F.R. Part 580:

23 (1) a secure power of attorney form; and

24 (2) a secure reassignment form for licensed motor
25 vehicle dealers.

26 (e) In this section, "transferee" and "transferor" have the
27 meanings assigned by 49 C.F.R. Section 580.3.

1 SECTION 14. Section 501.091(9), Transportation Code, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (9) "Nonrepairable motor vehicle" means a motor
4 vehicle ~~[that]~~:

5 (A) that is damaged, wrecked, or burned to the
6 extent that the only residual value of the vehicle is as a source of
7 parts or scrap metal; ~~or~~

8 (B) that comes into this state under a comparable
9 ownership document that indicates that the vehicle is
10 nonrepairable;

11 (C) that a salvage vehicle dealer has reported to
12 the department under Section 501.1003;

13 (D) for which an owner has surrendered evidence
14 of ownership for the purpose of dismantling, scrapping, or
15 destroying the motor vehicle;

16 (E) that is sold for export only by a salvage
17 motor vehicle dealer under Section 501.099; or

18 (F) that is sold and the sale is reported as an
19 export-only sale to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information
20 System by any state, jurisdiction, or entity required to report to
21 the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System.

22 SECTION 15. Section 501.09113(a), Transportation Code, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a) On receipt of a proper application from the owner of a
25 motor vehicle, the department shall issue the applicant the
26 appropriate title with any notations determined by the department
27 as necessary to describe or disclose the motor vehicle's current or

1 former condition if the [~~This section applies only to a~~] motor
2 vehicle was brought into this state from another state or
3 jurisdiction and [~~that~~] has on any title or comparable out-of-state
4 ownership document issued by the other state or jurisdiction or
5 record in the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System
6 reported by another state or jurisdiction:

7 (1) a "rebuilt," "repaired," "reconstructed," "flood
8 damage," "fire damage," "owner retained," "salvage," or similar
9 notation; or

10 (2) a "nonrepairable," "dismantle only," "parts
11 only," "junked," "scrapped," "crushed," "totaled," or similar
12 notation.

13 SECTION 16. Section 501.097(a), Transportation Code, as
14 amended by Chapters 1136 (H.B. 1422) and 1296 (H.B. 2357), Acts of
15 the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011, is reenacted to read
16 as follows:

17 (a) An application for a nonrepairable vehicle title,
18 nonrepairable record of title, salvage vehicle title, or salvage
19 record of title must:

20 (1) be made in a manner prescribed by the department
21 and accompanied by a \$8 application fee;

22 (2) include, in addition to any other information
23 required by the department:

24 (A) the name and current address of the owner;
25 and

26 (B) a description of the motor vehicle, including
27 the make, style of body, model year, and vehicle identification

1 number; and

2 (3) include the name and address of:

3 (A) any currently recorded lienholder, if the
4 motor vehicle is a nonrepairable motor vehicle; or

5 (B) any currently recorded lienholder or a new
6 lienholder, if the motor vehicle is a salvage motor vehicle.

7 SECTION 17. Section 501.1001(a), Transportation Code, as
8 amended by Chapters 1136 (H.B. 1422) and 1296 (H.B. 2357), Acts of
9 the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011, is reenacted and
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) Except as provided by Section 501.0925, an insurance
12 company that is licensed to conduct business in this state and that
13 acquires, through payment of a claim, ownership or possession of a
14 salvage motor vehicle or nonrepairable motor vehicle [~~covered by a~~
15 ~~certificate of title issued by this state or a manufacturer's~~
16 ~~certificate of origin~~] shall surrender the [a] properly assigned
17 evidence of ownership and apply for the appropriate title under
18 Section 501.097 [~~title or manufacturer's certificate of origin to~~
19 ~~the department, on a form prescribed by the department~~].

20 SECTION 18. Section 501.1002(a), Transportation Code, as
21 amended by Chapters 1136 (H.B. 1422) and 1296 (H.B. 2357), Acts of
22 the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011, is reenacted to read
23 as follows:

24 (a) If an insurance company pays a claim on a nonrepairable
25 motor vehicle or salvage motor vehicle and the insurance company
26 does not acquire ownership of the motor vehicle, the insurance
27 company shall:

1 (1) submit to the department, before the 31st day
2 after the date of the payment of the claim, on the form prescribed
3 by the department, a report stating that the insurance company:

4 (A) has paid a claim on the motor vehicle; and

5 (B) has not acquired ownership of the motor
6 vehicle; and

7 (2) provide notice to the owner of the motor vehicle
8 of:

9 (A) the report required under Subdivision (1);
10 and

11 (B) the requirements for operation or transfer of
12 ownership of the motor vehicle under Subsection (b).

13 SECTION 19. Section 501.1002(b), Transportation Code, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The owner of a salvage or nonrepairable motor vehicle
16 ~~[to which this section applies]~~ may not ~~[operate or permit~~
17 ~~operation of the motor vehicle on a public highway or]~~ transfer
18 ownership of the motor vehicle by sale or otherwise unless the
19 department has issued a salvage vehicle title, salvage record of
20 title, nonrepairable vehicle title, or nonrepairable record of
21 title for the motor vehicle or a comparable ownership document has
22 been issued by another state or jurisdiction for the motor vehicle
23 in the name of the owner.

24 SECTION 20. Section 501.109, Transportation Code, is
25 amended by amending Subsections (d) and (e) and adding Subsections
26 (g) and (h) to read as follows:

27 (d) Except as provided by Subsection (e), an offense under

1 Subsection (a), (b), or (c) [~~this section~~] is a Class C misdemeanor.

2 (e) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under
3 Subsection (a), (b), or (c) [~~this section~~] that the defendant has
4 been previously convicted of:

5 (1) one offense under Subsection (a), (b), or (c)
6 [~~this section~~], the offense is a Class B misdemeanor; or

7 (2) two or more offenses under Subsection (a), (b), or
8 (c) [~~this section~~], the offense is a state jail felony.

9 (g) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly
10 provides false or incorrect information or without legal authority
11 signs the name of another person on:

12 (1) an application for a title to a nonrepairable
13 motor vehicle or salvage motor vehicle;

14 (2) an application for a certified copy of an original
15 title to a nonrepairable motor vehicle or salvage motor vehicle;

16 (3) an assignment of title for a nonrepairable motor
17 vehicle or salvage motor vehicle;

18 (4) a discharge of a lien on a title for a
19 nonrepairable motor vehicle or salvage motor vehicle; or

20 (5) any other document required by the department or
21 necessary for the transfer of ownership of a nonrepairable motor
22 vehicle or salvage motor vehicle.

23 (h) An offense under Subsection (g) is a felony of the third
24 degree.

25 SECTION 21. Effective January 1, 2019, the heading to
26 Section 501.134, Transportation Code, is amended to read as
27 follows:

1 Sec. 501.134. CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST OR DESTROYED
2 CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

3 SECTION 22. Effective January 1, 2019, Sections 501.134(a),
4 (b), (c), and (d), Transportation Code, are amended to read as
5 follows:

6 (a) If a printed title is lost or destroyed, the owner or
7 lienholder disclosed on the title may obtain, in the manner
8 provided by this section and department rule, a certified copy of
9 the lost or destroyed title directly from the department by
10 applying in a manner prescribed by the department and paying a fee
11 of \$2. A fee collected under this subsection shall be deposited to
12 the credit of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles fund [~~and may~~
13 ~~be spent only as provided by Section 501.138~~].

14 (b) If a lien is disclosed on a title, the department may
15 issue a certified copy of the [~~original~~] title only to the first
16 lienholder or the lienholder's verified agent unless the owner has
17 original proof from the lienholder of lien satisfaction.

18 (c) The department must plainly mark "certified copy" on the
19 face of a certified copy issued under this section. [~~A subsequent~~
20 ~~purchaser or lienholder of the vehicle only acquires the rights,~~
21 ~~title, or interest in the vehicle held by the holder of the~~
22 ~~certified copy.~~]

23 (d) A certified copy of the title that is lawfully obtained
24 under this section supersedes and invalidates any previously issued
25 title or certified copy. If the certified copy of the title is
26 later rescinded, canceled, or revoked under Section 501.051, the
27 department may revalidate a previously superseded or invalidated

1 title or certified copy of title [~~A purchaser or lienholder of a~~
2 ~~motor vehicle having a certified copy issued under this section may~~
3 ~~at the time of the purchase or establishment of the lien require~~
4 ~~that the seller or owner indemnify the purchaser or lienholder and~~
5 ~~all subsequent purchasers of the vehicle against any loss the~~
6 ~~person may suffer because of a claim presented on the original~~
7 ~~title~~].

8 SECTION 23. Section 541.201(5), Transportation Code, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (5) "House trailer" means a trailer or semitrailer,
11 other than a towable recreational vehicle, that:

12 (A) is transportable on a highway in one or more
13 sections;

14 (B) is less than 45 [~~40~~] feet in length,
15 excluding tow bar, while in the traveling mode;

16 (C) is built on a permanent chassis;

17 (D) is designed to be used as a dwelling or for
18 commercial purposes if connected to required utilities; and

19 (E) includes plumbing, heating,
20 air-conditioning, and electrical systems.

21 SECTION 24. The following provisions of the Transportation
22 Code are repealed:

23 (1) Sections 501.032(c) and (d); and

24 (2) Section 501.09113(b).

25 SECTION 25. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.