86R1302 BEE-D

By:  Sanford H.B. No. 1121

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the recovery of property from certain vehicles stored at a vehicle storage facility or governmental vehicle storage facility.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter D, Chapter 2303, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 2303.162 to read as follows:

Sec. 2303.162.  RECOVERY OF PROPERTY FROM CERTAIN STORED VEHICLES. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Governmental vehicle storage facility" means a garage, parking lot, or other facility that is:

(A)  owned by a governmental entity; and

(B)  used to store or park at least 10 vehicles each year.

(2)  "Motor carrier" has the meaning assigned by Section 643.001, Transportation Code.

(b)  The operator of a vehicle storage facility or governmental vehicle storage facility shall allow the owner of property that is left in a vehicle stored at the facility to recover the property if:

(1)  at the time the vehicle was towed to the facility for storage:

(A)  the vehicle was operated by a motor carrier; and

(B)  the property was transported under an agreement between the property owner and the motor carrier; and

(2)  the property owner demonstrates ownership of the property.

(c)  The commission by rule shall determine the documents necessary to establish a person's ownership of property under this section.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.