

By: Landgraf

H.B. No. 799

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to liability for certain damage caused by vehicles exceeding maximum height limitations; creating a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. Section 621.207(c), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The owner of a vehicle is strictly liable for any ~~[Any]~~ damage to a bridge, underpass, or similar structure that is caused by the height of the ~~[a]~~ vehicle ~~[is the responsibility of the owner of the vehicle]~~.

SECTION 2. Section 621.504, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 621.504. BRIDGE OR UNDERPASS CLEARANCE. (a) A person commits an offense if the person operates ~~[may not operate]~~ or attempts ~~[attempt]~~ to operate a vehicle over or on a bridge or through an underpass or similar structure unless the height of the vehicle, including load, is less than the vertical clearance of the structure as shown by the records of the Texas Department of Transportation.

(b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine in an amount not to exceed the cost of any damage caused by the height of the vehicle.

SECTION 3. Section 621.504, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to damage that occurs on or after the

1 effective date of this Act.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.