

By: Martinez

H.B. No. 1666

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authorization by referendum on an optional county fee on vehicle registration in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.4021 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.4021. OPTIONAL COUNTY FEE FOR REGIONAL IMPROVEMENTS. (a) This section applies only to a county that:

(1) borders the United Mexican States and the Gulf of Mexico; or

(2) borders a county described by Subdivision (1).

(b) The commissioners court of a county by order may impose an additional fee of \$2 for a vehicle registered in the county if approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the county voting at an election, which the commissioners court may order and hold for that purpose.

(c) A vehicle that may be registered under this chapter without payment of a registration fee may be registered under this section without payment of the additional fee.

(d) A fee imposed under this section may take effect and be removed in accordance with the requirements of Section 502.401.

(e) The additional fee shall be collected for a vehicle when other fees imposed under this chapter are collected.

(f) The county shall:

1 (1) send 50 percent of the fee revenue collected to a
2 regional planning commission, council of governments, or similar
3 regional planning agency created under Chapter 391, Local
4 Government Code, in which the county is located; and

5 (2) send 50 percent of the fee revenue collected to
6 municipalities in the county, distributed in proportion to their
7 populations.

8 (g) A commission, council, or agency may use revenue
9 received under Subsection (f)(1) only to fund public transportation
10 services.

11 (h) A municipality may use revenue received under
12 Subsection (f)(2) only to fund road or drainage projects.

13 (i) The department shall adopt rules necessary to
14 administer registration for a vehicle being registered in a county
15 imposing a fee under this section.

16 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.