

By: Goodwin

H.B. No. 2814

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of highway safety corridors; increasing
a fine.

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

SECTION 1. Section 201.905(b), Transportation Code, is
amended to read as follows:

(b) A program under this section may also include literature
distributed to the public by the department concerning:

(1) the program established under this section; and

(2) highway safety corridors designated under Section
201.9051.

SECTION 2. Subchapter K, Chapter 201, Transportation Code,
is amended by adding Section 201.9051 to read as follows:

Sec. 201.9051. HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR. (a) The
department may designate as a highway safety corridor a portion of a
roadway containing:

(1) a site described by Section 201.905; or

(2) any other site with a high number of traffic
fatalities, as identified by the department.

(b) The department shall erect a sign at each end of the
highway safety corridor and at appropriate intermediate sites along
the corridor:

(1) indicating that it is a highway safety corridor;
and

1 (2) stating "Fines double: highway safety corridor."

2 (c) The department may include on the same sign the
3 information required for:

4 (1) a highway safety corridor under this section; and

5 (2) a traffic safety sign under Section 201.905(a).

6 (d) The commission by rule shall establish a process to
7 identify sites with high numbers of traffic fatalities.

8 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 542, Transportation Code,
9 is amended by adding Section 542.4046 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 542.4046. FINE FOR OFFENSE IN HIGHWAY SAFETY CORRIDOR.

11 (a) In this section, "highway safety corridor" means a portion of a
12 roadway designated by the department in accordance with Section
13 201.9051.

14 (b) If an offense under this subtitle, other than an offense
15 under Chapter 548 or 552 or Section 545.412 or 545.413, is committed
16 in a highway safety corridor:

17 (1) the minimum fine applicable to the offense is
18 twice the minimum fine that would be applicable to the offense if it
19 were committed outside a highway safety corridor; and

20 (2) the maximum fine applicable to the offense is
21 twice the maximum fine that would be applicable to the offense if it
22 were committed outside a highway safety corridor.

23 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only
24 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
25 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
26 covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
27 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that

1 purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed
2 before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense
3 was committed before that date.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.