

By: Rodríguez, et al.  
(Clardy)

S.B. No. 511

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the installation of unsafe motor vehicle tires;  
providing a civil penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 547.001, Transportation Code, is amended  
by adding Subdivision (9-a) to read as follows:

(9-a) "Unsafe tire" means a tire that:

(A) has tire tread less than one-sixteenth of an  
inch deep;

(B) has a localized worn spot that exposes the  
ply or cord through the tread;

(C) has a tread or sidewall crack, cut, or snag as  
measured on the outside of the tire that is more than an inch long  
and deep enough to expose the body cords;

(D) has any visible bump, bulge, or knot  
apparently related to tread or sidewall separation or partial  
failure of the tire structure, including the bead area;

(E) has been repaired temporarily by the use of a  
blowout patch or boot;

(F) has worn tread wear indicators that contact  
the road in any two adjacent major grooves in the center or middle  
of the tire; or

(G) does not otherwise meet applicable  
department safety standards for the tire adopted under Section

1 [547.101.](#)

2 SECTION 2. Section [547.612](#), Transportation Code, is amended  
3 by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

4 (f) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a  
5 person who owns or operates a business that installs tires on motor  
6 vehicles or an employee of the person may not knowingly install an  
7 unsafe tire on a motor vehicle to be used on a public street or  
8 highway. A person who violates this subsection is liable to this  
9 state for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$500. This  
10 subsection does not apply to the reinstallation of a tire on a motor  
11 vehicle that had been removed from the motor vehicle. Section  
12 [542.301](#) does not apply to a violation of this subsection.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.