H.B. No. 198

AN ACT

relating to vehicle safety inspections of certain travel trailers.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 548, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 548.054 to read as follows:

Sec. 548.054.  INSPECTION OF CERTAIN TRAVEL TRAILERS BY OWNER. A travel trailer, as defined by Section 501.002, that is not exempt from this chapter under Section 548.052(3) meets the safety inspection requirements of this chapter if the owner submits to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles or county tax assessor-collector at the time of the trailer's registration an affidavit stating that:

(1)  the owner has inspected the trailer during the period prescribed by Section 548.101; and

(2)  the trailer is in proper and safe condition and complies with this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter.

SECTION 2.  The heading to Section 548.510, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.510.  FEE FOR CERTAIN EXEMPTED VEHICLES [~~NOT SUBJECT TO INSPECTION~~]; COLLECTION OF FEE DURING REGISTRATION.

SECTION 3.  Section 548.510(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A vehicle described by Section 548.052(3) that has an actual gross weight or registered gross weight of more than 4,500 pounds, and a travel trailer that has been certified by the trailer's owner as meeting the safety inspection requirements of this chapter under Section 548.054, are each [~~is~~] subject to a fee in the amount of $7.50.

SECTION 4.  It is the intent of the legislature that the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Safety implement the provisions of this Act using money appropriated to those agencies that may be spent for that purpose.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 198 was passed by the House on May 12, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 136, Nays 4, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 198 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 30, Nays 1.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                    Date

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                  Governor