H.B. No. 1964

AN ACT

relating to the release of a motor vehicle accident report to an employee or authorized representative of a vehicle storage facility.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 550.065(c), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  On written request and payment of any required fee, the department or the governmental entity shall release the information to:

(1)  an entity described by Subsection (b);

(2)  the law enforcement agency that employs the peace officer who investigated the accident and sent the information to the department, including an agent of the law enforcement agency authorized by contract to obtain the information;

(3)  the court in which a case involving a person involved in the accident is pending if the report is subpoenaed; or

(4)  any person directly concerned in the accident or having a proper interest therein, including:

(A)  any person involved in the accident;

(B)  the authorized representative of any person involved in the accident;

(C)  a driver involved in the accident;

(D)  an employer, parent, or legal guardian of a driver involved in the accident;

(E)  the owner of a vehicle or property damaged in the accident;

(F)  a person who has established financial responsibility for a vehicle involved in the accident in a manner described by Section 601.051, including a policyholder of a motor vehicle liability insurance policy covering the vehicle;

(G)  an insurance company that issued an insurance policy covering a vehicle involved in the accident;

(H)  an insurance company that issued a policy covering any person involved in the accident;

(I)  a person under contract to provide claims or underwriting information to a person described by Paragraph (F), (G), or (H);

(J)  a radio or television station that holds a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission;

(K)  a newspaper that is:

(i)  a free newspaper of general circulation or qualified under Section 2051.044, Government Code, to publish legal notices;

(ii)  published at least once a week; and

(iii)  available and of interest to the general public in connection with the dissemination of news; [~~or~~]

(L)  any person who may sue because of death resulting from the accident; or

(M)  an employee or authorized representative of a vehicle storage facility, as defined by Section 2303.002, Occupations Code, that stored a vehicle involved in the accident.

SECTION 2.  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. 1964 was passed by the House on April 4, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 141, Nays 6, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1964 was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 30, Nays 1.

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Secretary of the Senate

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

                    Date

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                  Governor