H.B. No. 4797

AN ACT

relating to training on the treatment of toll project roadways during inclement weather.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 372, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 372.059 to read as follows:

Sec. 372.059.  TREATMENT OF TOLL ROADWAY DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER. (a) Except as provided by Subsections (e) and (f), a toll project entity that treats a roadway maintained by the entity during icy or snowy weather shall require each employee or contractor who develops and supervises a plan for roadway treatment to complete a training course on treating roadways during icy or snowy weather in the same manner as a department employee who treats roadways during icy or snowy weather.

(b)  The department, in coordination with public toll project entities:

(1)  shall make training courses that the department provides to department employees who develop and supervise plans for roadway treatment available to a person required to receive training under Subsection (a); and

(2)  may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

(c)  The department, in coordination with toll project entities, shall identify the types of employees and contractors who are subject to the training requirements under Subsection (a).

(d)  A training course described by Subsection (b) must include instruction regarding:

(1)  prioritizing treatment of elevated structures and other roadway elements that pose the highest risk to public health and safety during icy or snowy weather;

(2)  timing of treatment of roadways during icy or snowy weather; and

(3)  treatment of general purpose lanes adjacent to a toll project.

(e)  The department may authorize a toll project entity to require that an employee or contractor required to receive training under Subsection (a) complete a training course provided by another entity that includes substantially the same information as a course provided by the department.

(f)  For a roadway that is subject to a comprehensive development agreement entered into by the department or a public toll project entity under which a private participant is responsible for maintaining the roadway, the private participant is responsible for requiring each employee or contractor of the private participant who develops and supervises a plan for roadway treatment to complete the training required by Subsection (a).

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. 4797 was passed by the House on April 21, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 141, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 4797 on May 17, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4797 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 15, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

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

                 Date

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               Governor