

By: Thompson of Brazoria, Shine, Ashby,  
et al.

H.B. No. 53

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the exemption from registration fees of certain  
3 vehicles used by nonprofit disaster relief organizations.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 502.454(a), (b), and (f),  
6 Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The owner of a commercial motor vehicle, trailer, or  
8 semitrailer may apply for registration under Section 502.451 and is  
9 exempt from the payment of the registration fee that would  
10 otherwise be required by this chapter if the vehicle is:

11 (1) owned [and used exclusively for emergencies] by a  
12 nonprofit disaster relief organization; and

13 (2) used by the organization exclusively for  
14 emergencies, training, equipment maintenance, transportation of  
15 disaster relief supplies, or other activities related to disaster  
16 relief.

17 (b) An application for registration under this section must  
18 include:

19 (1) a statement by the owner of the vehicle that the  
20 vehicle is used exclusively as described by Subsection (a) [~~for~~  
21 ~~emergencies~~] and has not been used for any other purpose;

22 (2) a statement signed by an officer of the nonprofit  
23 disaster relief organization that the vehicle has [~~not~~] been used  
24 exclusively as described by Subsection (a) [~~for any purpose other~~

1 ~~than emergencies]~~ and qualifies for registration under this  
2 section; and

3           (3) a reasonable description of the vehicle and the  
4 emergency equipment included in the vehicle.

5           (f) A vehicle registered under this section that is used  
6 [~~for any purpose]~~ other than as described by Subsection (a) [~~an~~  
7 ~~emergency]~~ may not again be registered under this section.

8           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.