

By: Patterson

H.B. No. 842

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to prohibiting the suspension of a person's driver's  
3 license or extension of the period of a driver's license suspension  
4 for certain driving while license invalid convictions; authorizing  
5 a fee.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section [521.292\(a\)](#), Transportation Code, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (a) Except as provided by Section [521.457\(h\)](#), the [The]  
10 department shall suspend the person's license if the department  
11 determines that the person:

12 (1) has operated a motor vehicle on a highway while the  
13 person's license was suspended, canceled, disqualified, or  
14 revoked, or without a license after an application for a license was  
15 denied;

16 (2) is a habitually reckless or negligent operator of  
17 a motor vehicle;

18 (3) is a habitual violator of the traffic laws;

19 (4) has permitted the unlawful or fraudulent use of  
20 the person's license;

21 (5) has committed an offense in another state or  
22 Canadian province that, if committed in this state, would be  
23 grounds for suspension;

24 (6) has been convicted of two or more separate

1 offenses of a violation of a restriction imposed on the use of the  
2 license;

3 (7) has been responsible as a driver for any accident  
4 resulting in serious personal injury or serious property damage;

5 (8) is under 18 years of age and has been convicted of  
6 two or more moving violations committed within a 12-month period;  
7 or

8 (9) has committed an offense under Section 545.421.

9 SECTION 2. Section 521.343(c), Transportation Code, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (c) Except as provided by Section 521.457(h), if ~~if~~ the  
12 license holder is convicted of operating a motor vehicle while the  
13 license to operate a motor vehicle is cancelled, disqualified,  
14 suspended, revoked, or denied, the period is extended for the same  
15 term as the original suspension or disqualification, in addition to  
16 any penalty assessed under this chapter or Chapter 522.

17 SECTION 3. Section 521.457, Transportation Code, is amended  
18 by adding Subsections (h), (i), and (j) to read as follows:

19 (h) Except as provided by Subsection (i), the department may  
20 not suspend a person's driver's license under Section  
21 521.292(a)(1), or extend the period a person's driver's license is  
22 suspended under Section 521.343(c), for a conviction of an offense  
23 under this section if:

24 (1) the offense was committed before September 1,  
25 2019;

26 (2) the person was convicted of the offense after  
27 August 31, 2023; and

1           (3) the person pays the department the fee required  
2 under Section 521.313(a) or any other fee required for the  
3 reinstatement of the person's driver's license in the manner  
4 prescribed by the department.

5           (i) Subsection (h) does not apply to:

6                 (1) a commercial driver's license issued under Chapter  
7 522; or

8                 (2) a person who was transporting hazardous materials  
9 or operating a commercial motor vehicle at the time of the offense  
10 under this section.

11           (j) The fee collected under Subsection (h)(3) shall be  
12 deposited to the credit of the Texas mobility fund.

13           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.