

By: Springer, et al.
(Ashby)

S.B. No. 261

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to titling and registration of assembled trailers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 501.002, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subdivisions (1), (1-a), (8), (19), and (31) and adding Subdivisions (1-b) and (8-a) to read as follows:

(1) "Assembled trailer" means a trailer, semitrailer, or travel trailer that is built or assembled by a hobbyist.

(1-a) "Assembled vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 731.001.

(1-b) [~~(1-a)~~] "Certificate of title" means a printed record of title issued under Section 501.021.

(8) "First sale" means:

(A) the bargain, sale, transfer, or delivery of a motor vehicle, other than an assembled trailer or assembled vehicle, that has not been previously registered or titled, with intent to pass an interest in the motor vehicle, other than a lien, regardless of where the bargain, sale, transfer, or delivery occurred; and

(B) the registration or titling of that vehicle.

(8-a) "Hobbyist" means a person who:

(A) builds or assembles an assembled trailer for personal use;

(B) does not engage in the continuous sale of

1 vehicles, as defined by the department; and

2 (C) is not the maker of a kit or a manufacturer,
3 as defined by Section 2301.002, Occupations Code.

4 (19) "Owner" means:

5 (A) a person, other than a manufacturer,
6 importer, distributor, or dealer, claiming title to or having a
7 right to operate under a lien a motor vehicle that has been subject
8 to a first sale; or

9 (B) a hobbyist who constructed an assembled
10 trailer.

11 (31) "Used motor vehicle" means:

12 (A) a motor vehicle that has been the subject of a
13 first sale; ~~[or]~~

14 (B) an assembled vehicle that has been issued a
15 title; or

16 (C) an assembled trailer that has been issued a
17 title or has been registered under Chapter 502.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 501, Transportation Code,
19 is amended by adding Section 501.009 to read as follows:

20 Sec. 501.009. ASSEMBLED TRAILER. For purposes of this
21 chapter, an assembled trailer is considered to be, as applicable, a
22 trailer, semitrailer, or travel trailer, including a farm trailer
23 or farm semitrailer.

24 SECTION 3. Section 502.001, Transportation Code, is amended
25 by adding Subdivision (2-a) to read as follows:

26 (2-a) "Assembled trailer" has the meaning assigned by
27 Section 501.002.

1 SECTION 4. Subchapter A, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
2 is amended by adding Section 502.006 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 502.006. ASSEMBLED TRAILER. For purposes of this
4 chapter, an assembled trailer is considered to be, as applicable, a
5 trailer, semitrailer, or travel trailer, including a farm trailer
6 or farm semitrailer.

7 SECTION 5. Section 502.040(a), Transportation Code, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (a) Not more than 30 days after purchasing a vehicle, ~~[or]~~
10 becoming a resident of this state, or completing construction of an
11 assembled trailer, the owner of a motor vehicle, trailer, ~~[or]~~
12 semitrailer, or assembled trailer shall apply for the registration
13 of the vehicle for:

14 (1) each registration year in which the vehicle is
15 used or to be used on a public highway; and

16 (2) if the vehicle is unregistered for a registration
17 year that has begun and that applies to the vehicle and if the
18 vehicle is used or to be used on a public highway, the remaining
19 portion of that registration year.

20 SECTION 6. Section 731.001(a)(4), Transportation Code, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (4) "Assembled vehicle" means:

23 (A) an assembled motor vehicle;

24 (B) an assembled motorcycle;

25 (C) ~~[an assembled trailer,~~

26 ~~[(D)]~~ a custom vehicle;

27 (D) ~~[(E)]~~ a street rod;

1 (E) [~~(F)~~] a replica; or

2 (F) [~~(C)~~] a glider kit.

3 SECTION 7. Section [731.001\(a\)\(3\)](#), Transportation Code, is
4 repealed.

5 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.