

By: Middleton

S.B. No. 931

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to remote vehicle disabling technology capable of being  
3 activated or engaged by a motor vehicle manufacturer or  
4 governmental entity; creating criminal offenses.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 547, Transportation Code,  
7 is amended by adding Section 547.619 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 547.619. REMOTE VEHICLE DISABLING TECHNOLOGY;  
9 OFFENSE. (a) In this section:

10 (1) "Governmental entity" means an agency of the  
11 United States, this state, or a local government of this state.

12 (2) "Remote vehicle disabling technology" means any  
13 application or device, including software, firmware, and hardware,  
14 that, when activated or engaged, allows a person to disable the  
15 operation of a motor vehicle. The term does not include an ignition  
16 interlock device as defined by Article 42A.408, Code of Criminal  
17 Procedure.

18 (b) A person commits an offense if the person:

19 (1) manufactures, distributes, or possesses with  
20 intent to distribute remote vehicle disabling technology that is  
21 capable of being:

22 (A) activated or engaged by a motor vehicle  
23 manufacturer or governmental entity; and

24 (B) installed on a light truck or passenger car;

1           (2) installs on a light truck or passenger car remote  
2 vehicle disabling technology that is capable of being activated or  
3 engaged by the vehicle manufacturer or a governmental entity; or

4           (3) sells a light truck or passenger car on which has  
5 been installed remote vehicle disabling technology that is capable  
6 of being activated or engaged by the vehicle manufacturer or a  
7 governmental entity.

8           (c) An offense under this section is a state jail felony.

9           (d) A license holder under Chapter 2301, Occupations Code,  
10 who commits an offense under this section is subject to the  
11 revocation of the license under Section 2301.651(a)(4),  
12 Occupations Code.

13           SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
14 an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An  
15 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed  
16 by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the  
17 former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of  
18 this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of  
19 this Act if any element of the offense was committed before that  
20 date.

21           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.