BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 1366 By: Nichols Licensing & Administrative Procedures Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Under current state law, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) oversees and regulates both adult and minor driver education and safety courses. However, there is no explicit requirement for the curriculum of these courses to include information relating to construction or maintenance work zones. The bill sponsor has informed the committee that there were 215 work zone fatalities in 2024, which is a 12-percent increase from the 192 work zone fatalities that occurred in 2023. S.B. 1366 seeks to address these issues by requiring TCLR to require that information relating to construction or maintenance work zones be included in the curriculum of each driver education course or driving safety course.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation in SECTION 1 of this bill.

ANALYSIS

S.B. 1366 amends the Education Code to require the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) by rule to require that information relating to construction or maintenance work zones be included in the curriculum of each driver education course or driving safety course. The bill requires the curriculum to include the following information:

- the dangers associated with violating traffic laws in construction or maintenance work zones; and
- the penalties under the Transportation Code for certain offenses committed in a construction or maintenance work zone.

S.B. 1366 requires TCLR to consult with the Department of Public Safety in developing the required rules and to adopt the rules not later than May 1, 2026. The bill requires each driver education course or driving safety course held on or after September 1, 2026, to include in the course's curriculum the information required by the adopted rules.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2025.

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