

By: Nichols  
(Canales)

S.B. No. 1365

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to vehicle registration, license plates, and inspection reports.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2001.223, Government Code, as effective April 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2001.223. EXCEPTIONS FROM DECLARATORY JUDGMENT, COURT ENFORCEMENT, AND CONTESTED CASE PROVISIONS. Section 2001.038 and Subchapters C through H do not apply to:

(1) except as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 545, the granting, payment, denial, or withdrawal of financial or medical assistance or benefits under service programs that were operated by the former Texas Department of Human Services before September 1, 2003, and are operated on and after that date by the Health and Human Services Commission or a health and human services agency, as defined by Section 521.0001;

(2) action by the Banking Commissioner or the Finance Commission of Texas regarding the issuance of a state bank or state trust company charter for a bank or trust company to assume the assets and liabilities of a financial institution that the commissioner considers to be in hazardous condition as defined by Section 31.002(a) or 181.002(a), Finance Code, as applicable;

(3) a hearing or interview conducted by the Board of Pardons and Paroles or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice

1 relating to the grant, rescission, or revocation of parole or other  
2 form of administrative release; ~~[or]~~

3 (4) the suspension, revocation, or termination of the  
4 certification of a breath analysis operator or technical supervisor  
5 under the rules of the Department of Public Safety; or

6 (5) the refusal to issue or renew a motor vehicle  
7 registration or the cancellation, suspension, or revocation of a  
8 motor vehicle registration under Chapter 502, Transportation Code,  
9 or rules adopted by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles under  
10 that chapter.

11 SECTION 2. Section 502.044, Transportation Code, is amended  
12 by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (e) to read as  
13 follows:

14 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the department shall  
15 designate a vehicle registration period of 24 consecutive months to  
16 begin on the first day of a calendar month and end on the last day of  
17 the 24th calendar month for a passenger car or light truck that:

18 (1) is sold in this state or purchased by a commercial  
19 fleet buyer described by Section 501.0234(b)(4) for use in this  
20 state;

21 (2) has not been previously registered in this or  
22 another state; and

23 (3) on the date of sale, is of the current or preceding  
24 model year.

25 (e) The department shall use the date of sale of the vehicle  
26 in designating the registration period ~~[year]~~ for a vehicle for  
27 which registration is applied for under Section 501.0234.

SECTION 3. Section 502.048, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 502.048. REFUSAL TO REGISTER UNSAFE VEHICLE. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), the ~~[The]~~ department may refuse to register a motor vehicle and may cancel, suspend, or revoke a registration if the department determines that a motor vehicle is unsafe, improperly equipped, or otherwise unfit to be operated on a public highway.

(b) The department may take action under Subsection (a):

(1) only after providing to the owner of the motor vehicle for which the registration will be refused, canceled, suspended, or revoked notice of the proposed action and an opportunity to respond; and

(2) without a hearing.

SECTION 4. Section 502.360(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In addition to other fees authorized under this chapter, at the time of application for registration or renewal of registration of an electric vehicle, the applicant shall pay an additional fee of ~~[+~~

~~[(1) \$400, for the registration of a new vehicle to which Section 548.102 applies, or~~

~~[(2) \$200[7] for each 12 months of [the] registration [or renewal of registration of a vehicle to which Section 548.101 applies].~~

SECTION 5. Section 503.008(a), Transportation Code, as effective July 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The fee for:

2 (1) a dealer's license plate issued under Section  
3 503.061 is \$20 a year; and

4 (2) a dealer's temporary license plate issued under  
5 Section 503.062 is \$10 for an original license plate and \$0 for the  
6 renewal of the same license plate.

7 SECTION 6. Section 503.0633(f), Transportation Code, as  
8 effective July 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

9 (f) If the department determines that a dealer is  
10 fraudulently obtaining license plates or sets of license plates,  
11 ~~or~~ fraudulently using the database of dealer-issued license  
12 plates, or obtaining or using vehicle inspection reports described  
13 by Section 548.603(a)(1), the department may, after giving notice  
14 electronically and by certified mail to the dealer, deny access to  
15 the database of dealer-issued license plates to the dealer. A  
16 dealer denied access to the database of dealer-issued license  
17 plates under this subsection may request a hearing on the denial as  
18 provided by Subchapter O, Chapter 2301, Occupations Code.

19 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.