By: Canales H.B. No. 1203

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, 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

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

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

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

SECTION 2. 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 3. 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[~~,~~] for each 12 months of [~~the~~] registration [~~or renewal of registration of a vehicle to which Section 548.101 applies~~].

SECTION 4. Section 503.008(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The fee for:

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

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

SECTION 5. Section 503.0633(f), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(f) If the department determines that a dealer is fraudulently obtaining license plates or sets of license plates or fraudulently using the database of dealer-issued license plates, [~~or~~] has been denied access to the temporary tag database under former Section 503.0632(f), or is obtaining or using vehicle inspection reports described by Section 548.603(a)(1), the department may, after giving notice electronically and by certified mail to the dealer, deny access to the database of dealer-issued license plates to the dealer. A dealer denied access to the

database of dealer-issued license plates under this subsection may request a hearing on the denial as provided by Subchapter O, Chapter 2301, Occupations Code.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2027.