

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R614 DRH-D

H.B. 1041
By: Rangel (Shapiro)
State Affairs
5/10/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law mandates truck-tractors used in transporting agricultural products in Texas to be registered annually through the Texas Department of Transportation, or the harvester has the option to purchase a 72-hour or 144-hour vehicle registration permit (short-term permit). Many seasonal harvesters need to repeatedly purchase short-term registrations in order to deliver the commodities, which nearly equals the amount required to purchase an annual registration. This bill would provide harvesters who transport seasonal agricultural products the opportunity to purchase a partial year or seasonal registration for truck-tractors.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 1041 requires the Texas Department of Transportation to provide a registration period for a truck-tractor or commercial motor vehicle transporting seasonal agricultural products and provides a penalty for violations of this Act.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 502D, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.1585, as follows:

Sec. 502.1585. REGISTRATION PERIOD FOR TRUCK-TRACTOR OR COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORTING SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to provide for a monthly registration period for a truck-tractor or commercial motor vehicle (truck) that is used exclusively to transport a seasonal agricultural product and would otherwise be registered for a vehicle registration year. Requires TxDOT to adopt forms for registration under this section, and requires an applicant to indicate the number of months registration is applied for. Requires TxDOT to design, prescribe, and furnish a registration receipt and registration insignia. Sets forth the method by which the registration fee for registration under this section is computed. Provides that a person issued a registration under section commits an offense if the person uses the truck for a purpose other than to transport a seasonal agricultural product during the registration period. Prohibits a truck from being registered for a registration period that is less than one month or longer than six months. Defines "to transport a seasonal agricultural product."

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.