

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R6663 MTB-D

S.B. 1515
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Finance
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the Texas Department of Transportation (department) can not lease vehicles for its use; instead, the department must purchase all its vehicles. As proposed, S.B. 1515 allows the department the option to lease some vehicles instead of purchasing.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 201I, Transportation Code, by adding Section 201.7055, as follows:

Sec. 201.7055. ACQUISITION OF DEPARTMENT VEHICLES. (a) Authorizes the Texas Department of Transportation (department), as an alternative to purchasing a vehicle, to acquire a vehicle for the department's use through a lease, including a standard lease, a lease with an option to purchase, and a purchase buy-back program.

(b) Prohibits the amount spent on vehicle acquisitions using the methods authorized in Subsection (a) in a fiscal year from exceeding 5 percent of the amount spent on all vehicle acquisitions by the department in the previous fiscal year without the approval of the governor and the Legislative Budget Board.

SECTION 2. Requires the Texas Department of Transportation to study the feasibility of using the acquisition methods authorized by Section 201.7055, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, and to file its written findings with the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives not later than January 1, 2003.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.