

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R3953 MTB-D

S.B. 461  
By: Staples  
Infrastructure Development and Security  
3/4/2003  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, Texas law allows the operator of an emergency vehicle to function contrary to some traffic laws, including exceeding the speed limit, failing to stop at a red traffic signal, and standing or parking in a prohibited manner, when responding to an emergency call for service, pursuing an actual or suspected violator of the law, or responding to a fire alarm, but not when directing traffic or functioning as a police escort. As proposed, S.B. 461 expands the definition of when conduct contrary to certain traffic laws are allowed to during the provision of a police escort or directing or diverting traffic.

### **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 Section 546.002, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 546.002. WHEN CONDUCT PERMISSIBLE. (a) Defines “police escort.”

(b) Creates Subsection (b) from existing text. Includes in the situations in which Section 546.001 applies, directing or diverting traffic and conducting a police escort. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.