

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
82R2842 JXC-D

H.B. 441
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Transportation & Homeland Security
5/2/2011
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Under current Texas law, the provisions relating to semitrailer registration and fees are currently found in both Section 502 and Section 623 of the Transportation Code.

This bill amends both sections in order to increase the efficiency of the state in which a vehicle requires an additional fee due to excess weight.

H.B. 441 amends current law relating to the fees for certain commercial vehicles.

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 502.167(c), Transportation Code, as effective September 1, 2011, as follows:

(c) Provides that the fee for registration of a semitrailer used in the manner described by Subsection (a) (relating to the section applying only to a truck-tractor or commercial motor vehicle with a certain manufacturer's rated carrying capacity), regardless of the date the semitrailer is registered is \$15 for a registration year. Deletes existing text providing that the fee for a registration year for registration of a semitrailer used in the manner described by Subsection (a), regardless of the date the semitrailer is registered is \$30, for a semitrailer being propelled by a power unit for which a permit under Section 623.011 (Permit for Excess Axle or Gross Weight) has been issued; or for a semitrailer being propelled by a power unit for which a permit under Section 623.011 has not been issued.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 623.011(b), Transportation Code, as follows:

(b) Provides that to qualify for a permit under this section:

(1)-(2) Makes no changes to these subdivisions; and

(3) a base permit fee of \$90, rather than \$75, any additional fee required by Section 623.0111 (Additional Fee for Operation of Vehicle Under Permit), and any additional fee set by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) under Section 623.0112 (Additional Administrative Fee) must be paid.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 621.353(a), Transportation Code, to require the comptroller of public accounts to deposit \$40, rather than \$25, of each base fee, plus each fee collected under Section 623.0112, to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 4. (a) Provides that the changes in law made by this Act apply only to fees charged for a vehicle registration or permit issued on or after the effective date of this Act.

(b) Provides that a vehicle registration or permit issued before the effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect when the registration or permit was issued, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5. Effective date: September 1, 2011.