CHAPTER 85

S.B. No. 458

AN ACT

relating to certain motor vehicle records excepted from disclosure under the Public Information Act.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subsection (c), Section 552.130, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Subject to Chapter 730, Transportation Code, a governmental body may redact information described by Subsection (a) [Subsections (a)(1) and (3)] from any information the governmental body discloses under Section 552.021 without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer for public information on or after the effective date of this Act. A request for information that was received before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the request was received, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed the Senate on March 27, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved May 18, 2013.

Effective May 18, 2013.

CHAPTER 86

S.B. No. 466

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the Texas Department of Transportation to participate in certain federal transportation programs.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 201.6035 to read as follows:

Sec. 201.6035. AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN CERTAIN FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS. (a) The department may assume responsibilities of the United States Department of Transportation with respect to duties under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. Section 4321 et seq.) and with respect to duties under other federal environmental laws. The department may:

(1) assume responsibilities under 23 U.S.C. Sections 326 and 327; and

(2) enter into one or more agreements, including memoranda of understanding, with the United States secretary of transportation related to:

(A) designating categorical exclusions from federally required environmental assessments or impact statements for highway projects as provided by 23 U.S.C. Section 326; or

(B) the federal surface transportation project delivery program for the delivery of transportation projects, including highway, railroad, public transportation, and multimodal projects, as provided by 23 U.S.C. Section 327.

(b) The commission may adopt rules to implement this section and may adopt relevant federal environmental standards as the standards for this state for a program described by Subsection (a).

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), sovereign immunity to suit in federal court and from liability is waived and abolished with regard to the compliance, discharge, or enforcement of a responsibility assumed by the department under this section.

(d) Subsection (c) does not create liability for the department that exceeds the liability created under 23 U.S.C. Section 326(c)(3) or 327(d).

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed the Senate on March 13, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 145, Nays 2, two present not voting.

Approved May 18, 2013.

Effective May 18, 2013.

CHAPTER 87

S.B. No. 471

AN ACT
relating to technological efficiencies in the recording of certain open meetings.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 551.001, Government Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (7) to read as follows:

(7) "Recording" means a tangible medium on which audio or a combination of audio and video is recorded, including a disc, tape, wire, film, electronic storage drive, or other medium now existing or later developed.

SECTION 2. The heading to Section 551.021, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 551.021. MINUTES OR [TAPE] RECORDING OF OPEN MEETING REQUIRED.