

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 3014
By: Hawley (Bernsen)
Infrastructure
5/10/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, there are concerns regarding the efficiency and security of the current system of automobile registration used by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Other states have implemented automated vehicle registration systems, which have greatly decreased the incidence of fraud and theft. Such automated services are able to provide 24-hour customer service, scan and verify insurance certificates, accept various methods of payment, and print directly on the registration insignia, specific information regarding the vehicle. H.B. 3014 would set forth provisions regarding TxDOT's automated registration and title system.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 3014 sets forth provisions for the Texas Department of Transportation's automated registration and title system.

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 502.1705, as follows:

Sec. 502.1705. ADDITIONAL FEE FOR AUTOMATED REGISTRATION AND TITLE SYSTEM. Requires a \$1 fee to be collected, in addition to other registration fees for a license plate or set of license plates or other devices used as the registration insignia. Sets forth the authorized uses of money collected under this section by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Provides that this section applies only in a county in which the TxDOT's automated registration and title system has been implemented and in which 50,000 or more motor vehicles were registered during the preceding year.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 502.180(e), Transportation Code, to require the rules to provide for the use of an automated registration process.

SECTION 3. Amends Sections 502.184(a) and (i), Transportation Code, to authorize an owner of a registered motor vehicle to obtain from the department through the county assessor-collector replacement license plates or a replacement insignia by paying a fee of \$5 plus the fees, rather than fee, required by Sections 502.170(a) and 502.1705(a), rather than Section 502.170(a). Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.