

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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H.B. 2960
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Transportation & Homeland Security
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Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

There have been some concerns that a commercial motor vehicle used to transport livestock to and from equine events and livestock shows does not fall under provisions of law relating to the registration of commercial motor vehicles used primarily for farm purposes.

H.B. 2960 amends the Transportation Code to authorize a commercial motor vehicle used primarily for farm purposes to be registered as such while still allowing that vehicle to be used for transporting, without charge, the owner or a member of the owner's family for the purpose of participating in equine activities or attending livestock shows.

The bill exempts an owner from the requirement to register a vehicle under provisions of law relating to the issuance of specialty license plates for certain farm vehicles and drilling and construction equipment if the vehicle is used only temporarily on the highways and used for the purpose of participating in equine activities or attending livestock shows as those terms are defined in provisions of law relating to liability arising from such activities or shows.

H.B. 2960 amends current law relating to vehicles used for the purpose of participating in equine activities or attending livestock shows.

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 502.163(b), Transportation Code, follows:

(b) Authorizes a commercial motor vehicle to be registered under this section despite its use for transporting without charge the owner or a member of the owner's family for certain purposes, including for the purpose of participating in equine activities or attending livestock shows, as defined by Section 87.001 (Definitions), Civil Practice and Remedies Code. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 504.504(b), Transportation Code, as follows:

(b) Provides that an owner is not required to register certain vehicles that are used only temporarily on the highways, including a vehicle that is a farm trailer or farm semitrailer with a gross weight of more than 4,000 pounds but not more than 34,000 pounds that is used exclusively to transport seasonally harvested agricultural products or livestock from the place of production to the place of processing, market, or storage; to transport farm supplies from the place of loading to the farm; or for the purpose of participating in equine activities or attending livestock shows, as defined by Section 87.001, Civil Practice and Remedies Code. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2011.