

By: Berman

H.B. No. 537

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the transportation of children in passenger vans;
3 creating an offense.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 545.412(f)(2), Transportation Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (2) "Passenger vehicle" means a passenger car, light
8 truck, sport utility vehicle, passenger van designed to transport
9 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver, truck, or truck
10 tractor.

11 SECTION 2. Section 545.413, Transportation Code, is amended
12 by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

13 (b-1) A person commits an offense if the person allows a
14 child who is younger than 17 years of age and who is not required to
15 be secured in a child passenger safety seat system under Section
16 545.412(a) to ride in a passenger van designed to transport 15 or
17 fewer passengers, including the driver, without securing the child
18 individually by a safety belt.

19 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
20 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
21 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
22 covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
23 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that
24 purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed

1 before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense
2 was committed before that date.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.