

By: Smith of Tarrant

H.B. No. 1826

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the release of motor vehicle accident report  
3 information.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 550.065, Transportation Code, is amended  
6 by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (d) and adding Subsections  
7 (e) and (f) to read as follows:

8 (a) This section applies only to information that is held by  
9 the department or another governmental entity and relates to a  
10 motor vehicle accident reported under this chapter or Section  
11 601.004, including accident report information compiled under  
12 Section 201.805, as added by Chapter 1407, Acts of the 80th  
13 Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

14 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c) or (e), the  
15 information is privileged and for the confidential use of:

16 (1) the department; and

17 (2) an agency of the United States, this state, or a  
18 local government of this state that has use for the information for  
19 accident prevention purposes.

20 (d) The fee for a copy of the report or accident information  
21 is \$6 [~~or the actual cost of the preparation of the copy, whichever~~  
22 ~~is less~~]. The copy may be certified by the department or the  
23 governmental entity for an additional fee of \$2. The department or  
24 the governmental entity may issue a certification that no report or

1 information is on file for a fee of \$6.

2 (e) In addition to the information required to be released  
3 under Subsection (c), the department may release aggregated or  
4 statistical information relating to motor vehicle accidents that  
5 the department compiles under Section 201.805, as added by Chapter  
6 1407, Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007. The  
7 department may not release under this subsection information that:

8 (1) is personal information, as defined by Section  
9 730.003; or

10 (2) identifies a specific accident.

11 (f) The fee for information provided under Subsection (e) is  
12 the actual cost of preparing the information.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.