

By: Toth

H.B. No. 4168

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the definition of authorized emergency vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Section 541.201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (1)(L) to read as follow:

(1) "Authorized emergency vehicle" means:

(A) a fire department or police vehicle;

(B) a public or private ambulance operated by a person who has been issued a license by the Department of State Health Services;

(C) an emergency medical services vehicle:

(i) authorized under an emergency medical services provider license issued by the Department of State Health Services under Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code; and

(ii) operating under a contract with an emergency services district that requires the emergency medical services provider to respond to emergency calls with the vehicle;

(D) a municipal department or public service corporation emergency vehicle that has been designated or authorized by the governing body of a municipality;

(E) a county-owned or county-leased emergency management vehicle that has been designated or authorized by the commissioners court;

(F) a vehicle that has been designated by the

1 department under Section 546.0065;

2 (G) a private vehicle of a volunteer firefighter  
3 or a certified emergency medical services employee or volunteer  
4 when responding to a fire alarm or medical emergency;

5 (H) an industrial emergency response vehicle,  
6 including an industrial ambulance, when responding to an emergency,  
7 but only if the vehicle is operated in compliance with criteria in  
8 effect September 1, 1989, and established by the predecessor of the  
9 Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board of the State Firemen's  
10 and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas;

11 (I) a vehicle of a blood bank or tissue bank,  
12 accredited or approved under the laws of this state or the United  
13 States, when making emergency deliveries of blood, drugs,  
14 medicines, or organs;

15 (J) a vehicle used for law enforcement purposes  
16 that is owned or leased by a federal governmental entity; or

17 (K) a private vehicle of an employee or volunteer  
18 of a county emergency management division in a county with a  
19 population of more than 46,500 and less than 48,000 that is  
20 designated as an authorized emergency vehicle by the commissioners  
21 court of that county.

22 (L) a county road maintenance vehicle.

23 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.