

1-1 By: Nichols S.B. No. 1365
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 18, 2025; March 6, 2025,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;
 1-4 April 2, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 2, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Nichols	X			
1-8 West	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Hagenbuch	X			
1-11 Hinojosa of Hidalgo	X			
1-12 Johnson	X			
1-13 King			X	
1-14 Miles	X			
1-15 Perry	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to vehicle registration, license plates, and inspection
 1-20 reports.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 2001.223, Government Code, as effective
 1-23 April 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 2001.223. EXCEPTIONS FROM DECLARATORY JUDGMENT, COURT
 1-25 ENFORCEMENT, AND CONTESTED CASE PROVISIONS. Section 2001.038 and
 1-26 Subchapters C through H do not apply to:

1-27 (1) except as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 545,
 1-28 the granting, payment, denial, or withdrawal of financial or
 1-29 medical assistance or benefits under service programs that were
 1-30 operated by the former Texas Department of Human Services before
 1-31 September 1, 2003, and are operated on and after that date by the
 1-32 Health and Human Services Commission or a health and human services
 1-33 agency, as defined by Section 521.0001;

1-34 (2) action by the Banking Commissioner or the Finance
 1-35 Commission of Texas regarding the issuance of a state bank or state
 1-36 trust company charter for a bank or trust company to assume the
 1-37 assets and liabilities of a financial institution that the
 1-38 commissioner considers to be in hazardous condition as defined by
 1-39 Section 31.002(a) or 181.002(a), Finance Code, as applicable;

1-40 (3) a hearing or interview conducted by the Board of
 1-41 Pardons and Paroles or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice
 1-42 relating to the grant, rescission, or revocation of parole or other
 1-43 form of administrative release; ~~or~~

1-44 (4) the suspension, revocation, or termination of the
 1-45 certification of a breath analysis operator or technical supervisor
 1-46 under the rules of the Department of Public Safety; or

1-47 (5) the refusal to issue or renew a motor vehicle
 1-48 registration or the cancellation, suspension, or revocation of a
 1-49 motor vehicle registration under Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
 1-50 or rules adopted by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles under
 1-51 that chapter.

1-52 SECTION 2. Section 502.044, Transportation Code, is amended
 1-53 by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (e) to read as
 1-54 follows:

1-55 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the department shall
 1-56 designate a vehicle registration period of 24 consecutive months to
 1-57 begin on the first day of a calendar month and end on the last day of
 1-58 the 24th calendar month for a passenger car or light truck that:

1-59 (1) is sold in this state or purchased by a commercial
 1-60 fleet buyer described by Section 501.0234(b)(4) for use in this
 1-61 state;

2-1 (2) has not been previously registered in this or
2-2 another state; and
2-3 (3) on the date of sale, is of the current or preceding
2-4 model year.

2-5 (e) The department shall use the date of sale of the vehicle
2-6 in designating the registration period [~~year~~] for a vehicle for
2-7 which registration is applied for under Section 501.0234.

2-8 SECTION 3. Section 502.048, Transportation Code, is amended
2-9 to read as follows:

2-10 Sec. 502.048. REFUSAL TO REGISTER UNSAFE VEHICLE. (a)
2-11 Subject to Subsection (b), the [The] department may refuse to
2-12 register a motor vehicle and may cancel, suspend, or revoke a
2-13 registration if the department determines that a motor vehicle is
2-14 unsafe, improperly equipped, or otherwise unfit to be operated on a
2-15 public highway.

2-16 (b) The department may take action under Subsection (a):

2-17 (1) only after providing to the owner of the motor
2-18 vehicle for which the registration will be refused, canceled,
2-19 suspended, or revoked notice of the proposed action and an
2-20 opportunity to respond; and

2-21 (2) without a hearing.

2-22 SECTION 4. Section 502.360(b), Transportation Code, is
2-23 amended to read as follows:

2-24 (b) In addition to other fees authorized under this chapter,
2-25 at the time of application for registration or renewal of
2-26 registration of an electric vehicle, the applicant shall pay an
2-27 additional fee of[+]

2-28 [~~(1) \$400, for the registration of a new vehicle to~~
2-29 ~~which Section 548.102 applies; or~~

2-30 [~~(2) \$200[7] for each 12 months of [the] registration~~
2-31 ~~[or renewal of registration of a vehicle to which Section 548.101~~
2-32 ~~applies].~~

2-33 SECTION 5. Section 503.008(a), Transportation Code, as
2-34 effective July 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

2-35 (a) The fee for:

2-36 (1) a dealer's license plate issued under Section
2-37 503.061 is \$20 a year; and

2-38 (2) a dealer's temporary license plate issued under
2-39 Section 503.062 is \$10 for an original license plate and \$0 for the
2-40 renewal of the same license plate.

2-41 SECTION 6. Section 503.0633(f), Transportation Code, as
2-42 effective July 1, 2025, is amended to read as follows:

2-43 (f) If the department determines that a dealer is
2-44 fraudulently obtaining license plates or sets of license plates,
2-45 [~~or~~] fraudulently using the database of dealer-issued license
2-46 plates, or obtaining or using vehicle inspection reports described
2-47 by Section 548.603(a)(1), the department may, after giving notice
2-48 electronically and by certified mail to the dealer, deny access to
2-49 the database of dealer-issued license plates to the dealer. A
2-50 dealer denied access to the database of dealer-issued license
2-51 plates under this subsection may request a hearing on the denial as
2-52 provided by Subchapter O, Chapter 2301, Occupations Code.

2-53 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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