

1-1 By: Hagenbuch S.B. No. 1598
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2025; March 10, 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 the release of motor vehicle collision report
 1-20 information.

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

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 550.065, Transportation Code, is amended
 1-23 by amending Subsections (b), (c), and (f) and adding Subsection
 1-24 (e-1) to read as follows:

1-25 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), (c-1), or (e), the
 1-26 information is privileged and for the confidential use of:

1-27 (1) the department; and

1-28 (2) an agency of the United States, this state, or a
 1-29 local government of this state that has use for the information for
 1-30 [collision prevention] purposes of collision prevention or a
 1-31 criminal investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency.

1-32 (c) On written request and payment of any required fee, the
 1-33 department or the governmental entity shall release the information
 1-34 to:

1-35 (1) an entity described by Subsection (b);

1-36 (2) the law enforcement agency that employs the peace
 1-37 officer who investigated the collision and sent the information to
 1-38 the department, including a person acting on behalf [an agent]
 1-39 of the law enforcement agency who is authorized by contract to obtain
 1-40 the information;

1-41 (3) the court in which a case involving a person
 1-42 involved in the collision is pending if the report is subpoenaed; or

1-43 (4) any person directly concerned in the collision or
 1-44 having a proper interest therein, including:

1-45 (A) any person involved in the collision;

1-46 (B) the authorized representative of any person
 1-47 involved in the collision;

1-48 (C) a driver involved in the collision;

1-49 (D) an employer, parent, or legal guardian of a
 1-50 driver involved in the collision;

1-51 (E) the owner of a vehicle or property damaged in
 1-52 the collision;

1-53 (F) a person who has established financial
 1-54 responsibility for a vehicle involved in the collision in a manner
 1-55 described by Section 601.051, including a policyholder of a motor
 1-56 vehicle liability insurance policy covering the vehicle;

1-57 (G) an insurance company that issued an insurance
 1-58 policy covering a vehicle involved in the collision;

1-59 (H) an insurance company that issued a policy
 1-60 covering any person involved in the collision;

1-61 (I) a person under contract to provide claims or

2-1 underwriting information to a person described by Paragraph (F),
2-2 (G), or (H);
2-3 (J) a radio or television station that holds a
2-4 license issued by the Federal Communications Commission;
2-5 (K) a newspaper that is:
2-6 (i) a free newspaper of general circulation
2-7 or qualified under Section 2051.044, Government Code, to publish
2-8 legal notices;
2-9 (ii) published at least once a week; and
2-10 (iii) available and of interest to the
2-11 general public in connection with the dissemination of news;
2-12 (L) any person who may sue because of death
2-13 resulting from the collision; or
2-14 (M) an employee or authorized representative of a
2-15 vehicle storage facility, as defined by Section 2303.002,
2-16 Occupations Code, that stored a vehicle involved in the collision
2-17 [~~accident~~].
2-18 (e-1) In addition to the information required to be released
2-19 under Subsection (c), the governmental entity may release a vehicle
2-20 identification number and specific collision information relating
2-21 to that vehicle to a person described by Subsection (c)(2).
2-22 (f) The department or the governmental entity when
2-23 releasing information under Subsection (c-1), ~~(e)~~, or (e-1):
2-24 (1) may not release personal information, as defined
2-25 by Section 730.003; and
2-26 (2) shall withhold or redact the following items:
2-27 (A) the first, middle, and last name of any
2-28 person listed in a collision report, including a vehicle driver,
2-29 occupant, owner, or lessee, a bicyclist, a pedestrian, or a
2-30 property owner;
2-31 (B) the number of any driver's license,
2-32 commercial driver's license, or personal identification
2-33 certificate issued to any person listed in a collision report;
2-34 (C) the date of birth, other than the year, of any
2-35 person listed in a collision report;
2-36 (D) the address, other than zip code, and
2-37 telephone number of any person listed in a collision report;
2-38 (E) the license plate number of any vehicle
2-39 listed in a collision report;
2-40 (F) the name of any insurance company listed as a
2-41 provider of financial responsibility for a vehicle listed in a
2-42 collision report;
2-43 (G) the number of any insurance policy issued by
2-44 an insurance company listed as a provider of financial
2-45 responsibility;
2-46 (H) the date the peace officer who investigated
2-47 the collision was notified of the collision;
2-48 (I) the date the investigating peace officer
2-49 arrived at the collision site;
2-50 (J) the badge number or identification number of
2-51 the investigating officer;
2-52 (K) the date on which any person who died as a
2-53 result of the collision died;
2-54 (L) the date of any commercial motor vehicle
2-55 report; and
2-56 (M) the place where any person injured or killed
2-57 in a collision was taken and the person or entity that provided the
2-58 transportation.

2-59 SECTION 2. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
2-60 over another Act of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025,
2-61 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted
2-62 codes.

2-63 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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