

By: Howard of Fort Bend

H.B. No. 2412

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the registration and compulsory inspection of certain street rods and custom vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 504.502(a), (b), and (i), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall issue specialty license plates for a passenger car, truck, motorcycle, or former military vehicle that:

(1) is at least 25 years old, if the vehicle is a passenger car, truck, or motorcycle or is a street rod or custom vehicle;

(2) is a collector's item;

(3) is used exclusively for exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest and is not used for regular transportation; and

(4) does not carry advertising.

(b) The license plates must include the words "Antique Auto," "Antique Truck," "Antique Motorcycle," "Street Rod," "Custom Vehicle," or "Military Vehicle," as appropriate.

(i) In this section:

(1) "Custom vehicle" means a vehicle that:

(A) is:

(i) at least 25 years old and of a model

1 year after 1948; or

2 (ii) manufactured to resemble a vehicle
3 that is at least 25 years old and of a model year after 1948; and

4 (B) has:

5 (i) been altered from the manufacturer's
6 original design; or

7 (ii) a body constructed from materials not
8 original to the vehicle.

9 (2) "Former [~~,"~~ "former] military vehicle" means a
10 vehicle, including a trailer, regardless of the vehicle's size,
11 weight, or year of manufacture, that:

12 (A) [~~(1)~~] was manufactured for use in any
13 country's military forces; and

14 (B) [~~(2)~~] is maintained to represent its military
15 design and markings accurately.

16 (3) "Street rod" means a vehicle that:

17 (A) was manufactured:

18 (i) before 1949; or

19 (ii) after 1948 to resemble a vehicle
20 manufactured before 1949; and

21 (B) has:

22 (i) been altered from the manufacturer's
23 original design; or

24 (ii) a body constructed from materials not
25 original to the vehicle.

26 SECTION 2. Section 548.052, Transportation Code, is amended
27 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 548.052. VEHICLES NOT SUBJECT TO INSPECTION. This
2 chapter does not apply to:

3 (1) a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or mobile
4 home moving under or bearing a current factory-delivery license
5 plate or current in-transit license plate;

6 (2) a vehicle moving under or bearing a paper dealer
7 in-transit tag, machinery license, disaster license, parade
8 license, prorated tab, one-trip permit, antique license, custom
9 vehicle license, street rod license, temporary 24-hour permit, or
10 permit license;

11 (3) a trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or mobile
12 home having an actual gross weight or registered gross weight of
13 4,500 pounds or less;

14 (4) farm machinery, road-building equipment, a farm
15 trailer, or a vehicle required to display a slow-moving-vehicle
16 emblem under Section 547.703;

17 (5) a former military vehicle, as defined by Section
18 504.502(i) [~~502.275~~];

19 (6) a vehicle qualified for a tax exemption under
20 Section 152.092, Tax Code; or

21 (7) a vehicle for which a certificate of title has been
22 issued but that is not required to be registered.

23 SECTION 3. Section 504.502, Transportation Code, as amended
24 by this Act, applies only to a registration period beginning on or
25 after the effective date of this Act.

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