

SUBJECT: Authorizing Williamson County to enforce certain vehicle safety standards

COMMITTEE: Transportation — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 9 ayes — Canales, Landgraf, Goldman, Krause, Leman, Martinez, Ortega, Raney, E. Thompson

0 nays

4 absent — Bernal, Y. Davis, Hefner, Thierry

WITNESSES: For — Dana Moore, Texas Trucking Association; Jason Badder, Michael Delia, Williamson County Sheriff's Office; Jim McLean, Williamson County Sheriff's Department; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Adam Haynes, Conference of Urban Counties; Jim Allison, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jeremy Nordloh, Texas Department of Public Safety; John Esparza, Texas Trucking Association)

BACKGROUND: Transportation Code ch. 644 outlines the counties eligible to apply for certification to enforce certain traffic and highway laws, including prohibiting the further operation of a commercial vehicle on a highway if the vehicle or operator of the vehicle is in violation of a federal safety regulation.

Some have noted that Williamson County does not meet the population criteria to apply for certification to enforce commercial motor vehicle safety standards even though certain law enforcement officers have the necessary training and already support the Department of Public Safety in these efforts.

DIGEST: HB 511 would allow a sheriff or a deputy sheriff of a county that had a population of 400,000 or more and bordered the county in which the State

Capitol is located (Williamson County) to apply for certification to enforce commercial motor vehicle safety standards.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.