

SUBJECT: Allowing vendors to issue renewal and duplicate driver's licenses and IDs

COMMITTEE: Homeland Security and Public Safety — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 8 ayes — Nevárez, Paul, Burns, Clardy, Goodwin, Israel, Lang, Tinderholt

0 nays

1 absent — Calanni

WITNESSES: For — Jeff Adams; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Carlos Reyna, Aceable DSC Course Provider; Mary Gregory, Central Representative of Texas Professional Driver Education Association; Cecilia Jackson, Driving School Association of the Americas, Texas Professional Drivers Education Association; Nina Saint, SafeWay Driving; Kenton Fox, Gregory's Driving School; Debbie Callahan, Texas Professional Driver Education Association; Greg Peters, Vista Ridge Driving School, Inc.; Stephen Hilz; Tammy Hilz; Bernadette Mora; Earnest Weatherford)

Against — David Carter; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Virginia Ramirez)

On — Amanda Arriaga, Texas Department of Public Safety

BACKGROUND: Transportation Code sec. 521.009 allows the Department of Public Safety to enter into an agreement with a county or a municipality for the provision of services related to the issuance of renewal and duplicate driver's licenses, election identification certificates, and personal identification certificates at a county or municipal office.

Under sec. 521.428, a county or municipality that provides services under such an agreement may collect an additional fee of up to \$5 for each transaction relating to driver's licenses and personal identification certificates.

Due to recent reports of increased wait times at driver's license offices, some have suggested increasing locations to obtain a renewal or duplicate license and extending the duration of licenses to benefit customers.

DIGEST:

CSHB 838 would expand the program under Transportation Code sec. 521.009 to allow a private vendor to enter into an agreement with the Department of Public Safety for the provision of services related to the issuance of renewal and duplicate driver's licenses, election identification certificates, and personal identification certificates at a location determined by the vendor.

The bill would increase from \$5 to \$10 the cap on the fee a county, municipality, or private vendor that provided services under an agreement could collect for transactions relating to driver's licenses and personal identification certificates.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.