Sec. 201.117. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. (a) The commission may establish, as it considers necessary, advisory committees on any of the matters under its jurisdiction.

(b) The commission shall determine the purpose, duties, and membership of each advisory committee.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on March 19, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 25, 2009: Yeas 140, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.


CHAPTER 470

S.B. No. 375

AN ACT
relating to the release of certain motor vehicle accident report information.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 550.065, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (d) and adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to information that is held by the department or another governmental entity and relates to a motor vehicle accident reported under this chapter or Section 601.004, including accident report information compiled under Section 201.805, as added by Chapter 1407 (S.B. 766), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

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

(1) the department; and

(2) an agency of the United States, this state, or a local government of this state that has use for the information for accident prevention purposes.

(d) The fee for a copy of the accident report [or accident information] is $6 [or the actual cost of the preparation of the copy, whichever is less]. The copy may be certified by the department or the governmental entity for an additional fee of $2. The department or the governmental entity may issue a certification that no report or information is on file for a fee of $6.

(e) In addition to the information required to be released under Subsection (c), the department may release:

(1) information relating to motor vehicle accidents that the department compiles under Section 201.805, as added by Chapter 1407 (S.B. 766), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007; or

(2) a vehicle identification number and specific accident information relating to that vehicle.

(f) The department:

(1) may not release under Subsection (e) information that:

(A) is personal information, as defined by Section 730.003; or

(B) would allow a person to satisfy the requirements of Subsection (c)(4) for the release of information for a specific motor vehicle accident; and

(2) shall withhold or redact the following items of information:
(A) the first, middle, and last name of any person listed in an accident report, including a vehicle driver, occupant, owner, or lessee, a bicyclist, a pedestrian, or a property owner;

(B) the number of any driver's license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification certificate issued to any person listed in an accident report;

(C) the date of birth, other than the year, of any person listed in an accident report;

(D) the address, other than zip code, and telephone number of any person listed in an accident report;

(E) the license plate number of any vehicle listed in an accident report;

(F) the date of any accident, other than the year;

(G) the name of any insurance company listed as a provider of financial responsibility for a vehicle listed in an accident report;

(H) the number of any insurance policy issued by an insurance company listed as a provider of financial responsibility;

(I) the date the peace officer who investigated the accident was notified of the accident;

(J) the date the investigating peace officer arrived at the accident site;

(K) the date the investigating officer's report was prepared;

(L) the badge number or identification number of the investigating officer;

(M) the date on which any person who died as a result of the accident died;

(N) the date of any commercial motor vehicle report; and

(O) the place where any person injured or killed in an accident was taken and the person or entity that provided the transportation.

(g) The amount that may be charged for information provided under Subsection (e) shall be calculated in the manner specified by Chapter 552, Government Code, for public information provided by a governmental body under that chapter.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on April 8, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 25, 2009: Yeas 141, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.


CHAPTER 471

S.B. No. 376

AN ACT

relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Department of Transportation related to county traffic officers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 701.006, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 701.006. [COMPLAINT; HEARING; DISMISSAL.] (a) If a county traffic officer fails to perform the officer's duty to enforce the law, the district engineer of the Texas Department of Transportation district in which the officer operates may send a written, signed complaint to the commissioners court.

(b) On receipt of the complaint, the commissioners court shall hold a hearing and summon the officer to appear before it.