

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R2425 MTB-D

S.B. 1520
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Finance
4/8/2001
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has begun the process to upgrade its 10-year-old automated Registration and Titling System (RTS). Legislation enacted during the 76th Legislature added \$1 to the registration fee for each vehicle in certain counties in order to fund RTS enhancements. The revenue from this fee generated \$14.4 million in fiscal 2000 and a total of about \$30 million will be collected by the end of fiscal 2001. The total collected by the end of fiscal 2003, about \$30 million, is expected to be enough to cover the cost of upgrading RTS. TxDOT will need funding to make on-going enhancements to RTS, but the current annual income should not be necessary. As proposed, S.B. 1520 reduces the fee for enhancing RTS from \$1 to \$0.25 per vehicle beginning in fiscal 2004.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 502.1705(a), Transportation Code, to require a fee of 25 cents, rather than \$1, to be collected in addition to other registration fees for a license plate or set of license plates or other device used as the registration insignia.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2004.
Makes application of this Act prospective.