

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1527  
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Engrossed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, there is no specific provision or direction to motorists regarding actions to be taken if they approach a traffic signal with no indications displayed. Loss of power at a traffic signal is a fairly rare event, but it can cause significant congestion during rush hour conditions. There is a general misunderstanding of the appropriate actions to take when approaching an intersection with no indications, and this confusion can lead to collisions in the intersection resulting in injury and property damage. H.B. 1527 requires an operator of a vehicle facing a traffic-control signal that does not display any indication to treat the traffic-control signal as a stop sign.

### **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 544.007, Transportation Code, by adding Subsection (i) to require an operator of a vehicle facing a traffic-control signal that does not display an indication in any of the signal heads to stop as provided by Section 544.010 as if the intersection had a stop sign.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 545.151(a), Transportation Code, by separating Subdivision (A) from Subsection (a)(1) and adding Subdivision (B) to require that an operator approaching an intersection with a traffic-control signal that does not display any indication in any of the signal heads, after stopping, proceed when the intersection can be safely entered without interference or collision with traffic using a different street or roadway.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.