

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R5159 JRJ-D

S.B. 557
By: Madla
Infrastructure Development and Security
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Current Texas law allows specially designed license plates, benefitting an organization whose principal purpose is the improvement or preservation of Big Bend National Park, to be issued only for passenger cars and light trucks. In addition, the Texas Department of Transportation is not authorized to release the names of those who order the license plates to the Friends of the Big Bend Organization. As proposed, S.B. 557 adds motorcycle plates to the list of specialty plates for the Friends of Big Bend and provides a method by which a purchaser can choose whether the purchaser wants to be contacted by the Friends of Big Bend National Park.

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 502.2732, Transportation Code, by amending Subsections (a) and (d) and adding Subsection (h), as follows:

- (a) Includes motorcycles in the list of vehicles for which the Texas Department of Transportation is required to issue specially designed license plates to support a nonprofit organization designated by the Parks and Wildlife Department as espousing the improvement or preservation of Big Bend National Park.
- (d) Includes Section 502.160 in the list of sections relating to fees for a license plate.
- (h) Requires an application for license plates under this section to include a printed box for the applicant to check if the applicant does not consent to the release of his or her name and address. Requires the application to clearly specify that in not checking the box, the applicant consents to the release of the information.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.