

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R5815 JD-D

S.B. 677  
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As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, Texas law requires that a vehicle registered in this state display a license plate both on the front and the back of the vehicle. Reducing to one the number of required license plates for a vehicle owned by the state, or a political subdivision thereof, would provide a cost savings to the state and its subdivisions. As proposed, S.B. 677 allows vehicles owned by the state, or a political subdivision thereof, to lawfully function on the road with only one license plate, displayed on the rear of the vehicle. This bill does not apply to vehicles intended for use in covert criminal investigations or vehicles registered for such activity.

### **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 Chapter 502A, Transportation Code, by adding Section 502.010, as follows:

Sec. 502.010. ISSUANCE AND DISPLAY OF LICENSE PLATE FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES. (a) Provides that this section applies only to a vehicle owned by this state or a political subdivision thereof, other than a law enforcement vehicle, that meets certain criteria.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation to issue only one license plate to be attached at the rear of an applicable vehicle, notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary.

(c) Provides that a person can operate on a public highway, a vehicle, to which this section applies, that displays only one license plate that is attached to the rear of the vehicle, notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary.

(d) Establishes that any reference to "license plates," "plates," or a "set of plates" means only one license plate, under this chapter.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.