

## **LEGISLATIVE REVIEW – 2023 BILLS THAT PASSED (And one that didn't)**

TO REVIEW THE COMPLETE TEXTS OF THESE BILLS

GO TO: **Texas Legislature Online (<https://capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>) - Put bill number in – go to Text –See Enrolled - Analysis will tell you the reason for the bill or the impact.**

\*\*\*HB2127 - PREEMPTION- This bill will be discussed in detail by Jonathan Bruce at the June 10<sup>th</sup> TTSA Towing Conference. You may want to read the bill a couple of times before the meeting. It is complicated.

In basic terms, this bill takes most of the power away from political subdivisions to regulate businesses that are already licensed by a state agency unless the state specifically allows local political subdivisions the authority to regulate.

Except for the Transportation Code licenses such as Used Car Dealers, New Car Dealers, etc. Those are under the Transportation Code only and will not be impacted. Other agencies that regulate under the Occupations Code, etc. preempt local licenses, permits, or regulations from the local political subdivision (cities, towns, counties). The exception is if the state delegates the authority as in the Occupations Code, Chapter 2308 for towing. However, the Occupations Code, Chapter 2303 does not delegate storage regulations to local control.

This is a huge cost to cities and counties that get lots of fees from businesses.

There will be a fight in court by Home Rule Cities. We truly do not know where this will lead. This is treading into new waters. Stay in touch as this moves forward.

HB 898 -MOVE OVER BILL RAISING PENALTIES - SWTOW introduced the Move Over Bill and TTSA fully supported and testified for the bill. CJ worked it, too, for us and it did pass. We certainly need to work together.

Effective – 9/1/23

HB 2899 – RACING ON THE HIGHWAY – this bill will allow law enforcement to impound vehicles for racing. The vehicle can be taken to VSF or to the LEA's storage facility. The owner must pay VSF fees.

Effective – 9/1/23

HB 3126 – DEFINITION OF PASSING – cleans up language on passing a vehicle.  
Effective 9/1/23

HB1964- GETTING COLLISION REPORT BY VSF – Larry Cernosek had this bill passed so he could get collision reports on storage vehicles.  
Effective 9/1/23

HB3224 – REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES – removing the requirement to have insurance coverage at the time of registration.  
Effective 9/1/23

SB1495 – COLLECTING INFO FROM AIRPORT PARKING PUBLIC.- Public information protection.  
Effective 9/1/23

HB3125 - ADDING WHITE LIGHTS FOR RESPONDERS. White lights were not listed in the statute. – this was a cleanup  
Effective 9/1/23

HB 718 – PAPER PLATE CLEAN-UP FOR VEHICLES - WORTH THE READ If you are a dealer. Rules will be important when adopted.  
Effective July 1, 2025

HB291- RESTRICTIONS ON OCCUPATIONAL DRIVER’S LICENSE - zeros on DWI/DUI. Strict.  
Effective 9/1/23

HB2616 – MEDICAL EXAMINERS WILL BE ABLE TO RUN LIGHTS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.- Getting to Collisions quickly.  
Effective 9/1/23

HB2195 – RELATING TO FRAUD OR TAMPERING WITH OR MISUSE OF LICENSE PLATES No putting a tag on the wrong vehicle or vehicles. Effective 9/1/23

HB3297 – GETTING RID OF MANDATORY VEHICLE SAFETY INSPECTIONS.

If you are an inspection shop, I suggest that you read this. Emissions testing will continue.

Effective January 1, 2025

HB 1002 - ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS- A big move to put charging stations everywhere. Taking a vehicle to a station will probably happen by a tow truck.

Effective 9/1/23

HB 2190 – TERMINOLOGY CHANGED IN THE USE OF THE WORD “ACCIDENT” TO NOW BE “COLLISION” THROUGHOUT THE TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER. This bill was at first changing accident to crash. There is some disagreement concerning this terminology.

Effective 9/1/23

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HB 3148 – **DID NOT PASS** – STORING HEAVY-DUTY RECOVERY ISSUES

The substitute for this bill was very troubling. Ken will explain at the meeting the impacts that would have had. It would have been a disaster.