

CHAPTER 54

S.B. No. 298

An Act relating to the exemption of certain vehicles funded through the Texas Department of Aging to provide transportation to the elderly and to insurance standards for the vehicles; amending Subsection (c), Section 1, Chapter 270, Acts of the 40th Legislature, Regular Session, 1927, as amended (Article 911a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subsection (c), Section 1, Chapter 270, Acts of the 40th Legislature, Regular Session, 1927, as amended (Article 911a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The term 'Motor Bus Company' when used in this Act means every corporation or persons as herein defined, their lessees, trustees, receivers, or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, controlling, operating or managing any motor propelled passenger vehicle not usually operated on or over rails, and engaged in the business of transporting persons for compensation or hire over the public highways within the State of Texas, whether operating over fixed routes or fixed schedules, or otherwise. However, the term 'Motor Bus Company' as used in this Act shall not include:

"(1) corporations or persons, their lessees, trustees, or receivers, or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, insofar as they own, control, operate, or manage motor propelled passenger vehicles operated wholly within the limits of any incorporated town or city, and the suburbs thereof, whether separately incorporated or otherwise;

"(2) corporations or persons to the extent that they own, control, operate, or manage vehicles in compliance with the Texas Motor Vehicle Safety-Responsibility Act (Article 6701h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) which are used to provide free, not-for-hire transportation to elderly persons on behalf of a local agency on aging that receives transportation funds through the Texas Department on Aging, and the department shall establish minimum insurance standards for vehicles covered under this section;

"(3) corporations or persons to the extent that they own, control, operate, or manage vehicles used for van-pooling or any other nonprofit ride-sharing arrangement by which a group of people share the expense of operating or owning and operating a vehicle in which they commute to and from work with one member of the group serving as driver in exchange for transportation to and from work and reasonable personal use of the vehicle; or

"(4) ~~(3)~~ corporations or persons, their lessees, trustees, or receivers, or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, insofar as they own, control, operate, or manage motor propelled taxicabs designed for carrying no more than five passengers; permits, licenses, or certificates issued prior to June 1, 1983, would not be affected by the provisions of this exclusion. Such taxicabs are motor buses only when they operate to or from an airport established pursuant to Section 14, Chapter 114, Acts of the 50th Legislature, 1947, as amended (Article 46d-14, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes)."

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on February 21, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0;
passed the House on April 17, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved: April 30, 1985

Effective: Immediately