

CHAPTER 496

H.B. No. 84

AN ACT

relating to the disposal of certain authorized emergency vehicles; providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

(1) "Authorized emergency vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 2, Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

(2) "Vehicle equipment" has the meaning assigned by Section 108, Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

SECTION 2. CERTAIN EQUIPMENT TO BE REMOVED. The owner of an authorized emergency vehicle that is used to transport sick or injured persons may not transfer ownership of the vehicle, unless the owner of the vehicle:

(1) removes from the vehicle any vehicle equipment, including a light, siren, or device, that under the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) only an authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with; and

(2) removes or obliterates any emblem or marking on the vehicle that identifies the vehicle as an authorized emergency vehicle.

SECTION 3. NONAPPLICABLE. Section 2 of this Act does not apply if the owner of the authorized emergency vehicle transfers ownership of the vehicle to:

(1) a person who holds a license as an emergency medical services provider under Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code;

(2) a person who is in the business of buying and selling used vehicles in this state and specializes in authorized emergency vehicles; or

(3) an entity described in Section 2(d), Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), or to similar entities operating in foreign countries.

SECTION 4. OFFENSE. A person who violates Section 2 of this Act commits an offense. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993, and applies only to a transfer of ownership of an authorized emergency vehicle made on or after that date.

SECTION 6. EMERGENCY. 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.

Passed by the House on April 1, 1993, by a non-record vote; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 84 on May 24, 1993, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 19, 1993: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 3, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.