

Sec. 520.0071. DEPUTIES. (a) The board by rule shall prescribe:

(1) the classification types of deputies performing titling and registration duties;

(2) the duties and obligations of deputies;

(3) the type and amount of any bonds that may be required by a county assessor-collector for a deputy to perform titling and registration duties; and

(4) the fees that may be charged or retained by deputies.

(b) A county assessor-collector, with the approval of the commissioners court of the county, may deputize an individual or business entity to perform titling and registration services in accordance with rules adopted under Subsection (a).

Added by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1135 (H.B. 2741), Sec. 90, eff. September 1, 2013.

Added by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1287 (H.B. 2202), Sec. 44, eff. September 1, 2013.

(2) shall establish standards for uniformity and service quality for counties and dealers licensed under Section 520.005; and

(3) may conduct public service education campaigns related to the department's functions.

Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1290, Sec. 30, eff. September 1, 2011.

Text of section as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 224

For text of section as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1290, Sec. 30, see other Sec. 520.004.

Sec. 520.004. DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES. The department has jurisdiction over the registration and titling of, and the issuance of license plates to, motor vehicles in compliance with the applicable statutes. The board by rule:

(1) shall provide services that are reasonable, adequate, and efficient;

(2) shall establish standards for uniformity and service quality for counties and dealers licensed under Section 520.005; and

(3) may conduct public service education campaigns related to the department's functions.

Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 224, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.005. DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR. (a) Each county assessor-collector shall comply with Chapter 501.

(b) An assessor-collector who fails or refuses to comply with Chapter 501 is liable on the assessor-collector's official bond for resulting damages suffered by any person.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Sections 520.008 and 520.0091, the assessor-collector may license franchised and non-franchised motor vehicle dealers to title and register motor vehicles in accordance with rules adopted under Section 520.004. The county assessor-collector may pay a fee to a motor vehicle dealer independent

of or as part of the portion of the fees that would be collected by the county for each title and registration receipt issued.

Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 501.137 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1290, Sec. 31, eff. September 1, 2011.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 501.137 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 225, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.006. COMPENSATION OF ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR. (a) A county assessor-collector shall receive a fee of \$1.90 for each receipt issued under Chapter 502.

Text of subsection as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296,  
Sec. 226

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(a-1) A county collecting fees on behalf of a county that has been declared as a disaster area for purposes of Section 501.023 or 502.040 may retain the commission for fees collected, but shall allocate the fees to the county declared as a disaster area.

Text of subsection as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1290,  
Sec. 32

(a-1) A county assessor-collector collecting fees on behalf of a county that has been declared as a disaster area for purposes of Section 501.023 or 502.002 may retain the commission for fees collected, but shall allocate the fees to the county declared as a disaster area.

(b) A county assessor-collector who is compensated under this section shall pay the entire expense of issuing registration receipts and license plates under Chapter 501 or 502 from the compensation allowed under this section.

Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by

Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 30.44(b), eff. Sept. 1, 1997.  
Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code,  
Section 502.109 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1290, Sec. 32, eff.  
September 1, 2011.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code,  
Section 502.109 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 226,  
eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.007. COUNTY BRANCH OFFICES. (a) The commissioners  
court of a county may authorize the county assessor-collector to:

(1) establish a suboffice or branch office for vehicle  
registration at one or more locations in the county other than the  
county courthouse; or

(2) appoint a deputy to register vehicles in the same  
manner and with the same authority as though done in the office of the  
assessor-collector.

(b) The report of vehicles registered through a suboffice or  
branch office shall be made through the office of the county assessor-  
collector.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code,  
Section 502.111 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 227,  
eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.008. FULL-SERVICE DEPUTIES. (a) A full-service  
deputy appointed under Section 520.0091 shall accept any application  
for registration, registration renewal, or title transfer that the  
county assessor-collector may accept.

(b) A full-service deputy may charge and retain an additional  
motor vehicle registration fee not to exceed \$5 for each motor vehicle  
registration issued.

(c) A county assessor-collector may delegate to a full-service  
deputy, in the manner selected by the assessor-collector, the  
authority to use data processing equipment and software provided by  
the department for use in the titling and registration of motor  
vehicles. The department may not limit a county assessor-collector's  
ability to delegate the assessor-collector's functions regarding the  
titling and registration of motor vehicles to a qualified full-service

deputy in the manner the assessor-collector considers appropriate.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 502.114 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 228, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.009. LIMITED-SERVICE DEPUTIES. (a) A limited-service deputy appointed under Section 520.0091 may only accept registration renewals provided by the department and may not prepare or accept an application for title transfer.

(b) The county assessor-collector may pay a limited-service deputy an amount not to exceed the fee the assessor-collector could collect under Section 520.006(a) for each registration receipt issued. The commissioners court of the county may permit a limited-service deputy to charge and retain an additional fee not to exceed \$1 for each registration receipt issued by the deputy.

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Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 502.113 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 229, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.0091. DEPUTY ASSESSOR-COLLECTORS. (a) A county assessor-collector, with the approval of the commissioners court of the county, may deputize an individual or business entity to:

(1) issue motor vehicle registration receipts as a limited-service deputy; or

(2) issue motor vehicle registration receipts and prepare or accept applications for title transfers as a full-service deputy.

(b) An individual or business entity is eligible to be deputized as a limited-service deputy if the person:

(1) is trained to issue registration receipts by the county assessor-collector; and

(2) posts a bond payable to the county assessor-collector:  
(A) in an amount determined by the assessor-collector; and

(B) conditioned on the person's proper accounting and remittance of all fees the person collects.

(c) An individual or business entity is eligible to be deputized as a full-service deputy if the person:

- (1) meets the requirements of Subsection (b); and
- (2) has experience in title transfers.

(d) A person deputized under this section shall keep a separate account of the fees collected and a record of daily receipts.

Transferred and redesignated from Transportation Code, Section 502.112 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 230, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.0092. ACTS BY DEPUTY COUNTY ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR. A deputy county assessor-collector, other than a limited service deputy appointed under Section 520.0091, may perform the duties of an assessor-collector under Chapter 501.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section ~~501.136~~ by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 231, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.0093. LEASE OF ADDITIONAL COMPUTER EQUIPMENT. (a) This section applies only to the lease of equipment to a county for the operation of the automated registration and titling system in addition to the equipment provided by the department at no cost to the county under a formula prescribed by the department.

(b) On the request of the tax assessor-collector of a county, the department may enter into an agreement with the commissioners court of that county under which the department leases additional equipment to the county for the use of the tax assessor-collector in operating the automated registration and titling system in that county.

(c) A county may install equipment leased under this section at offices of the county or of an agent of the county.

(d) Equipment leased under this section:

- (1) remains the property of the department; and
- (2) must be used primarily for the automated registration and titling system.

(e) Under the agreement, the department shall charge an amount not less than the amount of the cost to the department to provide the

additional equipment and any related services under the lease. All money collected under the lease shall be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

Redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 520.002 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 232, eff. January 1, 2012.

#### SUBCHAPTER B. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Sec. 520.015. INFORMATION CONSOLIDATION STUDY. (a) In consultation with the Department of Public Safety, the department shall conduct a study on the consolidation of similar information that is collected separately by each agency. The study should include recommendations that sufficiently protect the privacy of the public and the security and integrity of information provided.

(b) The study must be completed not later than September 1, 2012.

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Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 234, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 520.016. GENERAL PENALTY. (a) A person commits an offense if the person violates this subchapter in a manner for which a specific penalty is not provided.

(b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$200.

(c) This section does not apply to a violation of Section 520.006, 520.008, 520.009, 520.0091, or 520.0092.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Transportation Code, Section 520.036 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1296, Sec. 235, eff. January 1, 2012.

#### SUBCHAPTER E. MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE SERVICES

Sec. 520.051. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Motor vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 501.002.

(2) "Motor vehicle title service" means any person that