

HB 2321 -- LIRAP and LIP Reform to Make the Program More Efficient at Improving Air Quality

LIRAP stands for the Low Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, and Accelerated Retirement Program. **LIP** stands for the Local Initiative Projects program. LIRAP and LIP are air quality improvement programs overseen by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

LIRAP and LIP are self-funded by a surcharge added to each vehicle emissions inspection in participating counties. *See list at right.*

LIRAP assists owners of high-emitting automobiles to reduce their air emissions by offering financial incentives to repair or replace them. The incentive amounts are capped in law, and have not been changed in 10 years.

LIP assists with air quality improvement strategies developed locally, such as a Counterfeit Motor Vehicle Inspection Program to combat counterfeit, fictitious, and improper State inspection certificates for polluting vehicles in the region.

House Bill 2321 seeks to modernize these programs:

- ★ It updates the incentive limits to provide real, practical assistance to low-income consumers seeking to repair or replace their cars
- ★ It removes the cap on LIP funds so that local areas can develop more realistic programs to reduce air emissions
- ★ It allows grant funds to be used over multiple years to maximize their effectiveness

HB 2321 is supported by the North Texas Council of Governments, which administers the programs in that part of the state, and by the Travis County and Williamson County commissioner courts. It also has widespread support from the automobile sales and repair industry.

Counties that participate in LIRAP/LIP

NONATTAINMENT COUNTIES

Brazoria
Collin
Dallas
Denton
Ellis
Fort Bend
Galveston
Harris
Johnson
Kaufman
Montgomery
Parker
Rockwall
Tarrant

NEAR- NONATTAINMENT COUNTIES

Travis
Williamson