

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 779

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the indigent status of a person for the purposes of the driver responsibility program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 708.158(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall waive all surcharges assessed under this chapter for a person who is indigent. For the purposes of this section, a person is considered to be indigent if the person provides the evidence described by Subsection (b) to the court. The court on its own motion may inquire whether the person would like to submit evidence to establish the person's indigent status.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section 708.158, Transportation Code, applies only to a trial that begins on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the offense occurred before, on, or after the effective date of this Act. The state is not required to refund a surcharge collected before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.