

## HB 2427 -- Regulation of Certain Contract Carriers

Sponsor: Meadows

This bill establishes certain requirements that must be included in a contract between a railroad corporation and a contract carrier that transports railroad employees on a road or highway of this state in a vehicle designed to carry eight or fewer passengers, including the driver. The requirements include:

- (1) Each driver to have a valid chauffeur's license;
- (2) Each driver to be subject to drug and alcohol screening;
- (3) A background investigation to be conducted of each person who transports railroad employees;
- (4) An application for employment from each prospective driver;
- (5) An annual review of the driving record of each driver who transports a railroad employee; and
- (6) The maintenance of a personnel file containing a driving record for each driver;

The bill also requires:

- (1) A contract carrier to limit the number of hours of service by a driver to 16 hours of on-duty time within any 24-hour period. A driver who has 12 hours of vehicle operation within any 24-hour period or 16 hours of on-duty time within any 24-hour period must have at least eight consecutive hours off duty before operating a vehicle again;
- (2) All vehicles to be maintained in a safe and proper operating condition, meet all state and federal regulations regarding safe construction and maintenance, and have a record kept of all maintenance and repairs performed;
- (3) Driver records to be kept for six months indicating the time all for-hire motor carrier drivers report for duty, the time of relief from duty, hours driven, hours on duty, and hours off duty;
- (4) Drivers to inspect their vehicles at the beginning and end of each day it is used; and
- (5) Contract carriers to maintain liability insurance of at least \$1.5 million for each vehicle used to transport railroad employees.

The Highways and Transportation Commission with the assistance of the State Highway Patrol is authorized to inspect motor vehicles used by contract carriers.

Anyone violating any provisions of the bill will be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.