AN ACT

relating to safety regulations for certain contract carriers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 644.054, Transportation Code, is amended
by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
follows:

(b) The department shall adopt rules regulating the
operation of a contract carrier to which this section applies. The
rules must:

(1) prohibit a person from operating a vehicle for
more than 12 hours in a day;

(2) require a person who operates a vehicle for the
number of consecutive hours or days the department determines is
excessive to rest for a period determined by the department;

(3) require a contract carrier to keep a record of all
hours a vehicle subject to regulation under this section is
operated; [and]

(4) require a contract carrier to perform alcohol and
drug testing of vehicle operators on employment, on suspicion of
alcohol or drug abuse, and periodically as determined by the
department;

(5) require a contract carrier, at a minimum, to
maintain liability insurance in the amount of $1.5 million for each
vehicle; and
be determined by the department to be necessary to protect the safety of a passenger being transported or the general public.

The department shall inform contract carriers and railroad companies that employ contract carriers of the requirements of state statutes applicable to contract carriers.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 481 passed the Senate on March 19, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 481 passed the House on May 12, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved:

23 MAY '09

Rick Perry
Governor

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State
MAY 23, 2009

Secretary of State