AN ACT

relating to the use of the Galveston-Port Bolivar ferry and the Port Aransas ferry operated by the Texas Department of Transportation.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 342, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 342.004 to read as follows:

Sec. 342.004. GALVESTON-PORT BOLIVAR FERRY AND PORT ARANSAS FERRY VEHICLE STICKERS. (a) The department may adopt rules to establish a system under which an owner of a motor vehicle may apply to the department for issuance of:

(1) a sticker for the vehicle that entitles the vehicle to have priority in boarding the Galveston-Port Bolivar ferry operated by the department; or

(2) a sticker for the vehicle that entitles the vehicle to have priority in boarding the Port Aransas ferry operated by the department.

(b) Any rules adopted under this section must:

(1) establish a design for the sticker for each ferry;

(2) designate the place where a sticker must be affixed to the windshield of the motor vehicle for which it is issued;

(3) establish an annual fee for a ferry vehicle sticker;

(4) prescribe forms necessary for the administration
of this section; and

(5) ensure that a vehicle displaying a sticker issued under this section is given priority in boarding the applicable ferry only until the ferry reaches 50 percent of its vehicle capacity.

(c) The department shall deposit each fee collected under this section to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

[Signatures]

President of the Senate
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 249 passed the Senate on April 16, 2003, by a viva-voce vote; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 20, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 249 passed the House, with amendments, on May 6, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

20 JUN '03

Governor

Date

Secretary of State