



August 10, 2017

**Registration and Title Bulletin # 008-17
Policy and Procedure**

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

SUBJECT: Trailer and Semitrailer Title Policy

PURPOSE

To provide guidance for titling trailers and semitrailers.

DETAILS

Senate Bill 2076 enacted by the 85th Legislature amended Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 501. Several of these changes impact the title eligibility and requirements for trailers and semitrailers.

Effective September 1, 2017, every trailer and semitrailer with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) (empty weight plus carrying capacity) of 4,000 lbs. or less and every farm trailer and farm semitrailer with a GVW of 34,000 lbs. or less may be permissively titled. Additionally, one of the most significant changes enacted with Senate Bill 2076 specifies that a “subsequent purchaser of a trailer or semitrailer titled previously” must obtain a title. Once a trailer, semitrailer, farm trailer, or farm semitrailer is titled, it must always be titled and cannot be changed to non-titled under any circumstances. The following chart summarizes trailer and semitrailer title requirements effective September 1:

Required or Optional Title for Trailers and Semitrailers

GVW	Trailer	Semitrailer	Farm Trailer	Farm Semitrailer
0 to 4,000 lbs.	Optional*	Optional*	Optional*	Optional*
4,001 to 34,000 lbs.	Required	Required	Optional*	Optional*
34,001 lbs. or more	Required	Required	Required	Required

* Unless the trailer or semitrailer is currently titled. If currently titled, title is required and not optional.

Additionally, we are providing a “Titling Trailers and Semitrailers” chart. This chart outlines the required documents for the most common scenarios that must be submitted in addition to the *Application for Texas Title and/or Registration* (Form 130-U) if the applicant desires or is required to obtain a Texas title.

COUNTY ACTION

Please ensure your staff is familiar with the title requirements for trailers and semitrailers. Only trailers and semitrailers with a GVW of 4,000 lbs. or less and farm trailers and farm semitrailers with a GVW of 34,000 lbs. or less are exempt from the requirement for mandatory titling if they are not titled at the time of transfer. They may be optionally titled if they are currently non-titled.

Please do not allow any trailer or semitrailer to change from “titled” to “non-titled.”

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Kuntz, Director
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division

JK:TT:TH

Attachment