

Uninsured Drivers Bill Is Approved

AUSTIN (AP)—The House Insurance Committee approved a bill Tuesday night that would require uninsured motorists to pay a \$90 fee to get their license plates.

The committee also approved a bill that would shift the burden of proof from a motorist to his insurer company on whether the other party to an accident had insurance.

Both measures now go to the House floor for debate.

Rep. Lynn Nabers, D-Brownwood, sponsor of the two bills, said subcommittee amendments provide for \$1 of the \$90 fee to go to the State Highway Department, \$2 to county assessors and not more than 25 per cent to the Department of Public Safety to enforce the bill.

The rest would go to the Texas Education Agency for drivers' education programs.

The bill would provide an incentive for the bills probably mean there will be a stiff debate on both on the House floor.

get insurance, Nabers said, since the bill would provide an incentive for uninsured motorists to get insurance.

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New State Tax Bill May Be Necessary

AUSTIN (AP)—The chairman of an interim study committee on revenue and taxation said Tuesday that he is not "as optimistic as the governor and taxator staff" in their view that the House will meet necessary appropriations without a tax bill.

Rep. Don Carness, D-Austin, presented brief report on the state's methods and problems of taxing in money and said the legislature should approach its tax picture "in a more sensible way."

Carness said the report did not recommend any particular approach for tax revenues, but it did project possible income taxes, or an augmented sales tax.

A 1 per cent income tax with a \$1,000 deduction could raise \$208 million for the state in 1974. The study showed, a similar corporate tax of 1 per cent could produce \$24 million, the study said. At 2 per cent it would raise \$59 million, and at 10 per cent it would produce \$350 million.

The report recommends the creation of a permanent revenue and taxation staff, saying "we should have had this type of staffwork for many preceding years."

Carness said a major finding in the study was that taxation methods in Texas are too haphazard.

"The pattern in the past has been to wait until late in the session to determine the actual amount of revenue that would be needed," he said.

"Then we just try to pass anything we can get enough votes for," he lamented.

The study also called for improved tax collection methods, proving tax collection methods, particularly the sales tax. The report recommended bonds to insure sales tax payments and monthly reports by businesses.

Carness said the study did not take up ad valorem taxes because several other committees were already considering that problem.

It also said more effective revenue uses could be found in bond issues from school lands.

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