1-1	By: Alvarado S.B. No. 2119
1-2	(In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2019; March 21, 2019, read
1-3	first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4	April 8, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5	Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 2; April 8, 2019,
1-6	sent to printer.)
1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE
1-8 1-9 1-10 1-11 1-12 1-13 1-14 1-15 1-16 1-17	YeaNayAbsentPNVHuffmanXXHughesXBirdwellXCreightonXFallonXHallXLucioXNelsonXZaffiriniX
1-18	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2119 By: Lucio
1-19	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20	AN ACT
1-21	relating to the transfer of the regulation of motor fuel metering
1-22	and motor fuel quality from the Department of Agriculture to the
1-23	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; providing civil and
1-24	administrative penalties; creating criminal offenses; requiring
1-25	occupational licenses; authorizing fees.
1-26	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-27	SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 14, Occupations Code, is
1-28	amended by adding Chapter 2310 to read as follows:
1-29	<u>CHAPTER 2310. MOTOR FUEL METERING AND QUALITY</u>
1-30	<u>SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS</u>
1-31	Sec. 2310.001. DEFINITIONS. (a) In this chapter:
1-32	(1) "Commercial weighing or measuring device" means a
1-33	weighing or measuring device used in a commercial transaction.
1-34	(2) "Commission" means the Texas Commission of
1-35	Licensing and Regulation.
1-36	(3) "Dealer" means a person who:
1-37	(A) is the operator of a service station or other
1-38	retail outlet; and
1-39	(B) delivers motor fuel into the fuel tanks of
1-40	motor vehicles or motor boats.
1-41	(4) "Department" means the Texas Department of
1-42	Licensing and Regulation.
1-43	(5) "Motor fuel" has the meaning assigned by Section
1-44 1-45 1-46 1-47 1-48 1-49	162.001, Tax Code.(6)"Motor fuel metering device" means a commercialweighing or measuring device used for motor fuel sales.(7)"Operator" or "user" means a person in possessionor control of a weighing or measuring device.(8)"Sell" includes barter or exchange.
1-50	(9) "Weighing or measuring device" means a scale or a
1-51	mechanical or electronic device used to dispense or deliver a motor
1-52	fuel by weight, volume, flow rate, or other measure or to compute
1-53	the charge for a service related to motor fuel.
1-54	(10) "Weight or measure of a motor fuel" means the
1-55	weight or measure of a motor fuel as determined by a weighing or
1-56	measuring device.
1-57 1-58 1-59 1-60	(b) A reference to the weight of a motor fuel in this chapteris a reference to the net weight of the motor fuel.Sec. 2310.002.ENFORCEMENTOFCHAPTER.(a) Notwithstanding any other law, the department shall enforce

2-1	the provisions of	this chapter and shall	ll supervise all motor fuel
2-2	metering devices	sold or offered for	sale in this state. The
2-3	department may	purchase apparatus	as necessary for the
2-4	administration of	this chapter.	

2**-**5 2**-**6 (b) To the extent this chapter conflicts with Chapter 13, Agriculture Code, with regard to motor fuel metering devices, this 2-7 chapter controls.

2-8 (c) The department may contract with one or more license holders under Subchapter D of this chapter or Subchapter I, Chapter 2-9 13, Agriculture Code, to perform the department's duties under this chapter related to motor fuel metering devices. A reference in this chapter to the commission or department in the context of a 2**-**10 2**-**11 2-12 contracted service means the contractor. 2-13

<u>Sec. 2310.003. CIVIL PENALTY; INJUNCTION. (a) A person</u> who violates Subchapter B or C or a rule adopted under Subchapter B or C is liable to the state for a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 2-14 2**-**15 2**-**16 2-17 for each violation. Each day a violation continues may be considered a separate violation for purposes of a civil penalty 2-18 assessment. 2-19 2-20 2-21

(b) On request of the department, the attorney general or the county attorney or district attorney of the county in which the violation is alleged to have occurred shall file suit to collect the penalty.

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2-23

(c) A civil penalty collected under this section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund. A civil penalty recovered in a suit first instituted by one 2-24 2**-**25 2**-**26 2-27 or more local governments under this section shall be equally 2-28 divided between this state and each local government that first instituted the suit, with 50 percent of the recovery deposited to the credit of the general revenue fund and the other 50 percent distributed equally to each local government. 2-29 2-30 2-31

2-32 (d) The department is entitled to appropriate injunctive relief to prevent or abate a violation of this chapter or a rule 2-33 adopted under this chapter. On request of the department, the attorney general or the county or district attorney of the county in which the alleged violation is threatened or is occurring shall 2-34 2-35 2-36 2-37 file suit for the injunctive relief. Venue is in the county in 2-38

which the alleged violation is threatened or is occurring. (e) The department and the attorney general may each recover reasonable expenses incurred in obtaining injunctive relief and civil penalties under this section, including investigative costs, 2-39 2-40 2-41 court costs, reasonable attorney's fees, witness fees, and deposition expenses. The expenses recovered by the department may 2-42 2-43 be appropriated only to the department for the administration and enforcement of this chapter. The expenses recovered by the attorney general may be appropriated only to the attorney general. 2-44 2-45 2-46 SUBCHAPTER B. STANDARD WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR MOTOR FUEL 2-47

2-48 Sec. 2310.051. LEGAL STANDARDS. (a) The legal standard for the weight or measure of a motor fuel in this state is the standard weight or measure adopted and used by the government of the United States for that motor fuel. If the United States does not 2-49 2-50 2-51 provide a standard weight or measure for a motor fuel, the standard 2-52 2-53 for the motor fuel is that established by this subchapter.

(b) The commission may adopt rules for the purpose of administering this subchapter and bringing about uniformity between the standards established under this subchapter and the 2-54 2-55 2-56 2-57 standards established by federal law.

2-58 (c) Except as otherwise provided by an express contract, а contract for work or sales by weight or measure of a motor fuel shall be construed in accordance with the standards of this 2-59 2-60 2-61 subchapter.

(d) The standards of this subchapter shall be the guide for 2-62 2-63 making any adjustment of weighing or measuring devices under the 2-64 law of this state. Sec. 2310.052. STANDARD FOR LIQUID MOTOR FUEL. 2-65 (a) This

2-66 section does not apply to compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas. (b) The standard unit of measure of capacity for liquid 2-67 2-68

motor fuels is the gallon. 2-69

3-1	C.S.S.B. No. 2119 (c) Except as provided by Subsections (d) and (e), all other
3-2	measures of capacity for liquid motor fuels are derived from the
3-3	gallon by continual division by two, making half gallons, quarts,
3-4	pints, half pints, and gills.
3 - 5 3 - 6	(d) A mechanism or machine that is adapted to measure and deliver liquid motor fuels by volume and that indicates fractional
3-0 3-7	parts of a gallon shall indicate the fractional parts either in
3-8	terms of binary submultiple subdivisions or in terms of tenths of a
3-9	gallon.
3-10	(e) For purposes of the retail sale of motor fuel only, the
3-11 3-12	liquid gallon contains 231 cubic inches without adjustment based on the temperature of the liquid.
3-13	Sec. 2310.053. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN MOTOR FUEL METERING
3-14	DEVICES. (a) The commission by rule may exempt a motor fuel
3-15	metering device from a requirement established by this chapter if
3-16 3-17	the commission determines that imposing or enforcing the requirement:
3-18	(1) is not cost-effective for the department;
3-19	(2) is not feasible with current resources or
3-20	standards; or
3-21 3-22	(3) will not substantially benefit or protect consumers.
3-23	(b) A motor fuel metering device is exempt from the
3-24	requirements of this chapter if the motor fuel metering device is
3-25 3-26	not used to: (1) calculate the amount of motor fuel sold in a
3-20	commercial transaction; or
3-28	(2) compute the charge for service.
3-29	Sec. 2310.054. SALE OF MOTOR FUEL BY PROPER MEASURE.
3-30 3-31	(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, motor fuel shall be sold by liquid measure.
3-32	(b) Compressed natural gas and liquefied natural gas shall
3-33	be sold by weight.
3 - 34 3 - 35	(c) A person violates this chapter if, in violation of this
3-35	section, the person sells motor fuel by other than weight or liquid measure.
3-37	Sec. 2310.055. PRICE ADVERTISEMENT; MISREPRESENTATION OF
3-38	PRICE OR QUANTITY. (a) If a price sign, card, tag, poster, or
3-39 3-40	other advertisement displaying the price of motor fuel includes a whole number and a fraction, the figures in the fraction shall be of
3-41	proportionate size and legibility to those of the whole number.
3-42	(b) A person violates this chapter if the person:
3-43	(1) misrepresents the price of motor fuel sold or
3 - 44 3 - 45	offered or exposed for sale; or (2) represents the price or the quantity of motor fuel
3-46	sold or offered or exposed for sale in a manner intended or tending
3-47	to mislead or deceive an actual or prospective customer.
3 - 48 3 - 49	Sec. 2310.056. FALSE REPRESENTATION OF MOTOR FUEL QUANTITY. A person violates this chapter if the person or the person's
3-49 3 - 50	representative or agent:
3-51	(1) sells or offers or exposes for sale a quantity of
3-52	motor fuel that is less than the quantity the person represents; or
3 - 53 3 - 54	(2) as a buyer furnishing the weight or measure of a motor fuel by which the amount of the motor fuel is determined,
3-55	takes or attempts to take more than the quantity the person
3-56	represents.
3-57	Sec. 2310.057. USE OF INCORRECT MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICE.
3 - 58 3 - 59	(a) A person commits an offense if the person or the person's representative or agent knowingly uses an incorrect weighing or
3-60	measuring device in:
3-61	<pre>(1) buying or selling motor fuel;</pre>
3-62	(2) computing a charge for services rendered on the
3 - 63 3 - 64	basis of weight or measure; or (3) determining the weight or measure of motor fuel,
3-65	if a charge is made for the determination.
3-66	(b) For the purpose of this section, a weighing or measuring
3-67 3-68	<pre>device is incorrect if it: (1) does not conform as closely as practicable to the</pre>
3-69	official standards;

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4-1	<pre>(2) is not accurate;</pre>
4-2 4-3	(3) is of a construction that is not reasonably permanent in adjustment or does not correctly repeat its
4-3 4 - 4	indications;
4-5	(4) facilitates the perpetration of fraud; or
4-6	(5) does not conform to the specifications and
4-7 4-8	tolerances established by the department under Section 2310.108. Sec. 2310.058. SALE OF MOTOR FUEL IN VIOLATION OF
4-9	SUBCHAPTER. A person violates this chapter if the person or the
4-10	person's representative or agent sells or keeps, offers, or exposes
4-11 4-12	for sale motor fuel in violation of this subchapter. Sec. 2310.059. TESTING BY DEPARTMENT. (a) The department
4-12 4 - 13	shall from time to time weigh or measure an amount of motor fuel
4-14	that is kept or offered for sale, sold, or in the process of
4-15 4-16	delivery, in order to determine: (1) if the motor fuel is of the amount or quantity
4-16 4-17	(1) if the motor fuel is of the amount or quantity represented; or
4-18	(2) if the motor fuel is being offered for sale or sold
4-19	in accordance with law.
4-20 4-21	(b) If the department finds that any lot of motor fuel contains less of the motor fuel than the amount represented, the
4-22	department may seize the motor fuel as evidence.
4-23	(c) A person commits an offense if the person or the
4-24 4-25	person's employee or agent refuses to exhibit motor fuel being sold or offered for sale at a given weight or guantity, or ordinarily
4-25 4 - 26	sold in that manner, to the department for testing and proving as to
4-27	quantity.
4-28 4-29	Sec. 2310.060. STOP-SALE ORDER. (a) If the department has
4-29 4-30	reason to believe that motor fuel is being sold or kept, offered, or exposed for sale in violation of this chapter or that motor fuel is
4-31	being sold or offered for sale by or through the use of a motor fuel
4-32	metering device that is in violation of this chapter, the
4-33 4-34	department may issue and enforce a written or printed order to stop the sale of the motor fuel. The department shall present the order
4-35	to the owner or custodian of the motor fuel or seller of the motor
4-36	fuel. The person receiving the order may not sell the motor fuel or
4-37 4-38	provide the service until discharged by a court under Subsection (b) or until the commission finds that the motor fuel or motor fuel
4-39	metering device is in compliance with this chapter.
4-40	(b) The owner or custodian of motor fuel or a person selling
4-41 4-42	or offering for sale a service prohibited from sale by an order of the department is entitled to sue in a court where the motor fuel is
4-43	found or the service is being sold or offered for sale for a
4-44	judgment as to the justification of the order and for the discharge
4 - 45 4 - 46	of the motor fuel in accordance with the findings of the court. (c) This section does not limit the right of the department
4-47	to proceed as authorized by other sections of this code.
4-48	Sec. 2310.061. PENALTIES; DEFENSE. (a) An offense under
4 - 49 4 - 50	Section 2310.057 or 2310.059 is a Class C misdemeanor. (b) It is a defense to prosecution or to the imposition of a
4-51	civil or administrative penalty for a violation of Section 2310.057
4-52	or 2310.059 that a discrepancy between the actual weight or volume
4 - 53 4 - 54	at the time of sale to a consumer or a discrepancy between the fill of a container and the capacity of the container is due to
4 - 55	unavoidable leakage, shrinkage, evaporation, waste, or causes
4-56	beyond the control of the seller acting in good faith.
4 - 57 4 - 58	SUBCHAPTER C. INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION OF MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICES
4-58 4 - 59	Sec. 2310.101. AUTHORITY TO INSPECT. (a) If the
4-60	department has reason to believe that a motor fuel metering device
4-61 4-62	is being used for a commercial transaction and the device is not registered with the department, the department may inspect the
4-62 4-63	device and the records of the owner, operator, or user of the device
4-64	that relate to use of the device to determine whether the device is
4-65	in compliance with this chapter.
4-66 4-67	(b) The department has reason to believe a motor fuel metering device is being used for a commercial transaction if:
4-68	(1) the motor fuel metering device is found in close
4-69	proximity to motor fuel being sold or offered for sale by weight or

5-1 measure and the device appears to be under the control or in the 5-2 possession of the person selling the motor fuel or offering the 5-3 motor fuel for sale; or

5-4 (2) other available evidence is sufficient for a 5-5 prudent person to believe that the motor fuel metering device is 5-6 being used for a commercial transaction.

5-7 Sec. 2310.105. REPAIR OR DESTRUCTION OF INCORRECT MOTOR 5-8 FUEL METERING DEVICES. (a) If, in the judgment of the department, 5-9 a motor fuel metering device found to be incorrect is not capable of 5-10 being repaired, the department may condemn, seize, and destroy the 5-11 device.

5-12 (b) If, in the judgment of the department, an incorrect 5-13 motor fuel metering device is capable of being repaired, the 5-14 department shall place on the device a tag or other mark with the 5-15 words "Out of Order." The owner or user of the motor fuel metering 5-16 device may not use it until it is reinspected and released for use 5-17 by the department or inspected and released for use in any other 5-18 manner authorized by department rule.

5-19 (c) The owner, operator, or user of a motor fuel metering 5-20 device may not destroy, replace, or otherwise dispose of a device 5-21 declared to be incorrect or condemned under this section except as 5-22 provided by department rule.

5-23 Sec. 2310.106. TESTS FOR STATE INSTITUTIONS. As requested 5-24 by the comptroller or the governing body of a state institution, the 5-25 department shall test each motor fuel metering device used by a 5-26 state institution for any purpose, including a motor fuel metering 5-27 device used in checking the receipt and distribution of supplies. 5-28 The department shall report results of the test to the chair of the 5-29 governing body of the institution.

5-29 governing body of the institution.
5-30 Sec. 2310.107. STANDARDS USED IN INSPECTION. (a) The standards of weights and measures maintained by the department and certified by the National Institute of Standards and Technology or a metrology laboratory certified by the National Institute of Standards by which all 5-34 Standards and Technology are the state's standards by which all 5-35 state and local standards of weights and measures for motor fuel are 5-36 tried, authenticated, proved, and certified.

5-37 (b) The department shall maintain the primary standards for 5-38 motor fuel in a safe and suitable place in the offices of the 5-39 department. The standards may not be moved except for repairs or 5-40 certification. The department shall maintain the standards in good 5-41 order and shall submit them to the National Institute of Standards 5-42 and Technology or to a laboratory approved by the National 5-43 Institute of Standards and Technology for certification at least 5-44 once each 10 years.

5-44 5-45 (c) In addition to the standards for motor fuel kept by the 5-46 5-46 5-47 5-48 5-48 5-49 5-49 5-49 additional standards for use in adjusting local standards or in the performance of other official duties. The department may purchase 5-49 additional sets of standards as necessary for use by a department 5-50 inspector or other department personnel. 5-51 (d) At the request of a municipality, the department shall

5-51 furnish the municipality with copies of the state's standards for 5-52 5-53 motor fuel or test and approve other standards acquired by the municipality. The municipality shall reimburse the state for the 5-54 actual cost of the standards furnished, plus the costs of freight and certification. All standards furnished to or tested for a 5-55 5-56 municipality shall be true and correct and certified by the 5-57 department. The copies used by a municipality may be of any suitable material or construction that the municipality requests, 5-58 5-59 5-60 subject to approval by the department. (e) The department, or a metrology laboratory certified by

5-61 5-62 the National Institute of Standards and Technology and approved by 5-63 the department, shall inspect and correct the standards for motor fuel used by a department inspector, another department employee, 5-64 5-65 or an individual or business licensed by the department to perform device maintenance activities under Subchapter D, or an individual 5-66 or business licensed under Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture 5-67 Code. 5-68 5-69 The commission may adopt rules to regulate the frequency (f)

C.S.S.B. No. 2119 and place of inspection and correction of the standards for motor 6-1 fuel used by an individual or business licensed by the department to 6-2 6-3 perform device maintenance activities under Subchapter D or an 6-4 individual or business licensed under Subchapter I, Chapter 13, 6-5 Agriculture Code. (g) The department may inspect any standard for motor fuel by an individual or business licensed by the department to 6-6 6-7 used perform device maintenance activities described by Subchapter D or 6-8 an individual or business licensed under Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture Code, if the department has reason to believe a 6-9 6-10 6-11 standard is no longer in compliance with this chapter. (h) The department shall keep a record of the inspection and 6-12 character of standards for motor fuel inspected under this section. 6-13 Sec. 2310.108. TOLERANCES. Specifications and tolerances for motor fuel metering devices shall be the same as those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. 6-14 6**-**15 6**-**16 Sec. 2310.109. FEES. (a) The commission by rule shall 6-17 6-18 establish fees in amounts reasonable and necessary to cover the cost of administering this chapter. 6-19 6-20 6-21 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, the commission may not in state fiscal biennium increase a fee under Subsection (a) for a 6-22 motor fuel metering device by an amount that exceeds 10 percent of the amount of the fee at the end of the preceding state fiscal 6-23 6-24 biennium. Sec. 2310.110. REFUSING TO ALLOW TEST OF MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICE. (a) A person commits an offense if the person 6-25 6-26 6-27 refuses to allow a motor fuel metering device under the person's 6-28 control or in the person's possession to be inspected, tested, or examined by the department, and the inspection, test, examination is required or authorized by this chapter. (b) A person commits an offense if the person hinders 6-29 or 6-30 6-31 or obstructs in any way the department, a department inspector, or 6-32 6-33 other department employee in the performance of official duties. 6-34 (c) A person commits an offense if the person removes or obliterates a tag or device placed or required by the department to be placed on a motor fuel metering device under this chapter. 6-35 6-36 Sec. 2310.111. SALE OR USE OF INCORRECT MOTOR FUEL METERING 6-37 6-38 DEVICE. (a) The department may condemn and prohibit the sale or 6-39 distribution of any incorrect motor fuel metering device sold, offered for sale, or about to be sold in this state. that is 6-40 (b) A person commits an offense if the person 6-41 or the person's representative or agent knowingly: 6-42 6-43 (1) offers or exposes for sale, hire, or award or sells an incorrect motor fuel metering device; 6-44 6-45 (2) possesses an incorrect motor fuel metering device; 6-46 or 6-47 (3) sells, offers for sale, uses, or possesses for the 6-48 purpose of sale or use a device or instrument to be used to falsify or intended to falsify a weight or measure for motor fuel. Sec. 2310.112. DISPOSING OF CONDEMNED MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICE. A person commits an offense if the person or the person's 6-49 6-50 6-51 representative or agent disposes of a motor fuel metering device 6-52 6-53 condemned under Section 2310.105 or 2310.111 in a manner contrary to those sections. 6-54 Sec. 2310.113. PENALTIES. An Oliense unde 10, 2310.111, or 2310.112 is a Class C misdemeanor. 6-55 under Section 2310.110, 6-56 SUBCHAPTER D. LICENSING OF MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICE SERVICE 6-57 TECHNICIANS AND MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICE SERVICE COMPANIES 6-58 Sec. 2310.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter: 6-59 "Device maintenance activities" means activities (1)6-60 described by Section 2310.152. 6-61 "License holder" means a person who holds a motor 6-62 (2) 6-63 fuel metering device service company license or a motor fuel metering device service technician license. 6-64 (3) "Service company" means a person who holds a motor metering device service company license issued by the 6-65 6-66 fuel 6-67 department under this subchapter. (4) "Service technician" means an individual who holds 6-68 a motor fuel metering device service technician license issued by 6-69

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-1	the department under this subchapter.
-2	Sec. 2310.152. DEVICE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES. A person
-3 -4	performs device maintenance activities if the person or the person's employee:
5	(1) places a motor fuel metering device in service;
	(2) installs, calibrates, inspects, tests, or repairs
	a motor fuel metering device; or
	(3) removes an out-of-order tag, stop-sale order, security seal, lock, condemnation notice, or other form of use
	prohibition placed on a motor fuel metering device by the
	department.
	Sec. 2310.153. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. (a) To
	verify compliance with licensing requirements, trade practices, department rules, and this chapter, the department may periodically
	or in response to a complaint or previous violation inspect an
	applicant's or license holder's:
	<pre>(1) facilities; (2) inspecting and testing equipment and procedures;</pre>
	(3) repair and calibration equipment, standards, and
	procedures;
	(4) transportation equipment; and
	(5) invoices, work orders, and other records related to device maintenance activities.
	(b) The department may periodically or in response to a
	complaint or previous violation monitor and inspect or test motor
	fuel metering devices that have been inspected and tested by a
	license holder and any standards used by the license holder during an inspection or test.
	(c) The commission by rule may adopt additional
	requirements for the issuance of a license and for the denial of an
	application for a license or renewal of a license. Rules adopted by
	the commission under this subsection must be designed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and ensure the proper
	inspection, testing, and operation of motor fuel metering devices.
	(d) The commission may adopt other rules necessary for the
	regulation of device maintenance activities, for the proper
	operation of motor fuel metering devices, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and license holders.
	(e) The department may specify the date, time, and place for
	any inspection authorized by this section.
	(a) A person is not required to hold a license issued under this
	subchapter if the person:
	(1) is a department employee who is performing device
	maintenance activities in the scope of the person's duties for the
	<u>department;</u> (2) is the owner or operator of a motor fuel metering
	device or an employee of the owner or operator of a motor fuel
	metering device and the person:
	device from the (A) completely removes the motor fuel metering
	device from the location at which the device was installed, including a device subject to an out-of-order tag, stop-sale order,
	security seal, lock, condemnation notice, or other item placed on
	the device by the department to prohibit use of the device; and
	(B) notifies the department of the motor fuel
	metering device's removal not later than the 10th day after the date the device was removed in the manner provided by department rule;
	(3) performs device maintenance activities only on a
	motor fuel metering device that is:
	(A) exempt from the registration requirements of Section 2310.103 under department rules;
	(B) exempt from the inspection requirements of
	Section 2310.102 under department rules; and
	(C) not required to be inspected by other
	<u>department rules; or</u>
	(4) is a license holder under Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture Code.
	(b) The department is not required to hold a license issued
	under this subchapter or Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture

C.S.S.B. No. 2119 Code. 8-1 Sec. 2310.155. SERVICE TECHNICIAN LICENSE REQUIRED. Unless 8-2 8-3 individual is exempt from the licensing requirement, an the 8-4 individual may not perform or offer to perform device maintenance activities unless the individual holds a service technician license 8-5 8-6 issued by the department under this subchapter. 8-7 Sec. 2310.156. SERVICE COMPANY LICENSE REQUIRED. Unless the person is exempt from the license requirement, a 8-8 (a) person may not employ an individual who performs or offers 8-9 to perform device maintenance activities unless the person holds a service company license issued by the department under this 8-10 8-11 subchapter. 8-12 8-13 (b) Unless the individual is exempt from the licensing requirement, an individual may not perform or offer to perform device maintenance activities as a sole proprietor unless the individual holds a service technician license and a service company 8-14 8**-**15 8**-**16 8-17 license issued by the department under this subchapter. 8-18 Sec. 2310.157. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE. An applicant for a license under this subchapter must submit to the department: 8-19 8-20 8-21 an application form prescribed by the department; (2) any other information required by the department; 8-22 and 8-23 (3) a fee in an amount set by the department. Sec. 2310.158. SERVICE TECHNICIAN LICENSE REQUIREMENTS. (a) The department shall issue a license to each qualified applicant who applies for a service technician license. 8-24 8-25 8-26 8-27 (b) The commission by rule may require an applicant for the 8-28 issuance or renewal of a service technician license to meet one or more of the following requirements: 8-29 (1) provide to the department proof that the applicant completed an academic, trade, or professional course of 8-30 8-31 has instruction approved by the department; 8-32 (2) pass a written test; or(3) pass a practical skills test. 8-33 8-34 Sec. 2310.159. SERVICE COMPANY LICENSE REQUIREMENTS. The department shall issue a license to each qualified 8-35 8-36 (a) applicant who applies for a service company license. 8-37 An applicant for the issuance or renewal of a license 8-38 (b) under this section must: 8-39 (1) submit to the department a certificate of evidencing that the applicant has an insurance policy 8-40 8-41 insurance that meets the requirements of Section 2310.160 effective for the 8-42 period for which the license is to be issued or renewed; and 8-43 (2) meet any other requirements provided by department 8-44 8-45 rule. 8-46 POLICY REQUIRED FOR Sec. 2310.160. INSURANCE SERVICE COMPANY. A service company shall maintain at all times while the 8-47 8-48 service company performs device maintenance activities a current effective operations liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in this state or by a surplus lines insurer that meets the requirements of Chapter 981, 8-49 8-50 8-51 Insurance Code, and rules adopted by the commissioner of insurance 8-52 8-53 in an amount set by the department and based on the type of licensed activities to be performed. Sec. 2310.161. TERM OF LICENSE. A license issued under this subchapter is valid for one year unless a different term is 8-54 8-55 8-56 established by department rule. Sec. 2310.162. LICENSE RENEWAL. 8-57 8-58 A person licensed under this subchapter must periodically renew the person's license. The 8-59 license expires unless the license holder submits an application for renewal accompanied by the renewal fee set by the department or 8-60 8-61 by the late fee set by the department and meets the requirements for 8-62 8-63 renewal. Sec. 2310.163. PRACTICE BY LICENSE HOLDER. (a) A license holder shall perform device maintenance activities in compliance 8-64 8-65 with department rules. (b) A license holder may use only equipment approved by the 8-66 8-67 department, as provided by department rules, when performing device 8-68 maintenance activities. 8-69

C.S.S.B. No. 2119 Sec. 2310.164. CRIMINAL PENALTY. (a) A person commits an offense if the person violates Section 2310.155 or 2310.156 or 9-1 9-2 causes another person to violate Section 2310.155 or 2310.156. 9-3 (b) An offense under Subsection (a) is a Class B misdemeanor, unless the person has been previously convicted of an 9-4 9-5 9-6 offense under this section, in which case the offense is a Class A 9-7 misdemeanor. SUBCHAPTER E. SALE, DELIVERY, AND QUALITY OF MOTOR FUEL Sec. 2310.201. NOTICE OF SALE OF ALCOHOL AND FUEL MIXTURE. A dealer may not sell or offer for sale motor fuel from a motor 9-8 9-9 9-10 (a) 9**-**11 fuel pump supplied by a storage tank into which motor fuel, in a 9-12 mixture in which at least one percent of the mixture measured by volume is ethanol or methanol, has been delivered within the 60-day 9-13 9-14 period preceding the date of sale or offer of sale unless the dealer prominently displays on the pump from which the mixture is sold a sign that complies with Subsection (b). 9-15 9**-**16 (b) A sign required by Subsection (a) must: 9-17 9-18 (1) be displayed on each face of the motor fuel pump on 9-19 which the price of the motor fuel mixture sold from the pump is 9-20 displayed; 9**-**21 state "Contains Ethanol" or "Contains Methanol," (2) 9-22 as applicable; 9-23 (3)appear in contrasting colors with block letters at least one-half inch high and one-fourth inch wide; and (4) be displayed in a clear, conspicuous, and prominent manner, visible to customers using either side of the 9-24 9-25 9**-**26 9-27 pump. 9-28 (c) This section does not prohibit the posting of any other alcohol or additive information. Other alcohol or additive information and any relevant posting are subject to regulation by 9-29 9-30 9**-**31 the department. 9-32 Sec. 2310.202. MINIMUM MOTOR FUEL QUALITY AND TESTING STANDARDS. (a) The commission by rule shall adopt minimum motor 9-33 fuel quality and testing standards for motor fuel that is sold or offered for sale in this state. The standards must comply with the nationally recognized minimum standards established by: 9-34 9-35 9-36 (1) the American Society for Testing and Materials, 9-37 9-38 for motor fuels other than motor fuels blended with ethanol; and (2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology, for motor fuels blended with ethanol. (b) The commission may adopt rules as necessary to bring 9-39 9-40 9-41 about uniformity between the standards established under this 9-42 9-43 subchapter and the nationally recognized standards described by <u>Subsection (a).</u> <u>Sec. 2310.203. TESTING OF MOTOR FUEL QUALITY. (a) The</u> <u>department or a representative of the department may collect</u> 9-44 9-45 9-46 samples and conduct testing at any location where motor fuel is 9-47 kept, transferred, sold, or offered for sale to verify that the motor fuel complies with the minimum standards required by Section 2310.202. (b) The collection of samples and conducting of testing at a 9-48 9-49 9-50 9-51 9-52 dealer's location must be performed by a license holder under 9**-**53 Subchapter D of this chapter or Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture Code, under contract with the dealer. The license 9-54 considered a representative of the department 9-55 holder is for purposes of this section. 9-56 9-57 (c) On arriving at a facility to conduct testing under Subsection (a), a representative of the department shall notify the 9-58 owner or manager of the facility of the representative's presence 9-59 and purpose. The department representative shall follow the most recent applicable procedures specified by ASTM International 9-60 9-61 Standard D4057, D4177, D5842, or D5854 for the collection, 9-62 9-63 sampling, and handling of fuel to prepare for laboratory analysis. (d) A person commits an offense if the person refuses to allow a department representative to collect samples or conduct 9-64 9-65 9-66 motor fuel testing under Subsection (a). 9-67 (e) An offense under Subsection (d) is a Class C 9-68 misdemeanor. Sec. 2310.204. RULES; FEES. (a) The commission may adopt 9-69 9

C.S.S.B. No. 2119 rules consistent with this subchapter for the regulation of the 10-1 sale of motor fuels, including motor fuels that contain ethanol and 10-2 methanol. 10-3

10-4 (b) The commission by rule may impose a fee for testing, inspection, or the performance of other services provided as determined necessary by the commission in the administration of this subchapter. A fee imposed under this subsection shall be 10-5 10-6 10-7 collected from each dealer, distributor, and supplier, as defined 10-8 by Section 162.001, Tax Code, on a periodic basis determined by the commission without regard to whether the motor fuel is subject to 10-9 10-10 10-11 regulation under this subchapter. (c) The commission by rule shall prescribe the form for

10-12 reporting and remitting the fees imposed under this section. 10-13

10-14 (d) Fees collected under this section may be used only to 10-15 10-16

administer and enforce this subchapter. Sec. 2310.205. CIVIL PENALTY. A person who sells or offers for sale motor fuel in violation of this subchapter or a rule 10-17 10-18 adopted under this subchapter is liable to this state for a civil 10-19

penalty of not less than \$200 and not more than \$2,500. Sec. 2310.206. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY. The commission may impose an administrative penalty on a person under Subchapter F, Chapter 51, if the person sells or offers for sale motor fuel in 10-20 10-21 10-22 violation of this subchapter or a rule adopted under this 10-23 10-24 subchapter.

SECTION 2. Sections 13.1015, 13.1016, and 13.1017, Agriculture Code, are transferred to Subchapter C, Chapter 2310, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, redesignated as Sections 10-25 10-26 10-27 10-28 2310.102, 2310.103, and 2310.104, Occupations Code, and amended to read as follows: 10-29

Sec. 2310.102 [13.1015]. INSPECTION OF MOTOR FUEL METERING S. (a) Unless a motor fuel metering device is exempt from 10-30 10-31 DEVICES. the application of this section by department rule, a motor fuel 10-32 metering device shall be inspected, tested, and calibrated for correctness by a license holder under <u>Subchapter D of this chapter</u> or Subchapter I, <u>Chapter 13</u>, <u>Agriculture Code</u>, at least once every two years if the device is: 10-33 10-34 10-35 10-36

10-37 (1) kept for sale, sold, or used by a proprietor, agent, lessee, or employee in proving the measure of motor fuel; or 10-38 10-39 (2) purchased, offered, or submitted by a proprietor, 10-40

agent, lessee, or employee for sale, hire, or award. (b) Inspection, testing, and calibration under this section must be performed by a license holder under <u>Subchapter D of this</u> 10-41 10-42 chapter or Subchapter I, Chapter 13, Agriculture Code, under contract with the operator or user of the motor fuel metering 10-43 10-44 10-45 device.

10-46 Sec. 2310.103 [13.1016]. REQUIRED REGISTRATION OF MOTOR 10-47 FUEL METERING DEVICES. (a) Unless a motor fuel metering device is 10-48 exempt from the application of this section by department rule, a 10 - 49person who owns or operates a motor fuel metering device shall 10-50 register the device with the department before using the device for 10-51 a commercial transaction.

An application for a device registration must: (b)

10-53 (1)be submitted to the department form on а 10-54 prescribed by the department;

10-52

(2) be accompanied by any other document or 10-55 form 10-56 required by the department;

10-57 (3) include any fees [the registration fee] required under Section 2310.109 [13.1151]; and 10-58

(4) include documentation of compliance with Section 10-59 2310.102 $[\frac{13.1015}{13.1015}]$. 10-60

10-61 $\overline{(c)}$ A registration under this section is valid for one year unless a different period is established by department rule. The 10-62 10-63 registration must be renewed at or before the end of each 10-64 registration period and the application for renewal must include 10-65

documentation of compliance with Section 2310.102 [13.1015].
 (d) If a person fails to register or renew a registration as 10-66 required by this section, the department may not issue certificate to operate the motor fuel metering device. 10-67 а The 10-68 10-69 department shall issue the certificate when the operator submits to

the department the items required by Subsection (b). 11-1 11-2 (e) The department may assess a late fee if the registration 11-3 of one or more devices located on a premises is renewed after the 11-4 end of the registration period because of a registration error, 11-5 including one or more devices not properly registered, failure to register the correct type of device, or failure to timely register a previously registered device. The amount of the penalty may not 11-6 11-7 exceed \$50 per device, with a maximum penalty amount of \$500 per 11-8 11-9 year for the premises.

Sec. <u>2310.104</u> [13.1017]. COMPLAINTS REGARDING MOTOR FUEL ING DEVICES. (a) The department shall receive complaints 11-10 11-11 METERING DEVICES. 11-12 regarding motor fuel metering devices.

11-13 (b) After receiving a complaint regarding a motor fuel 11-14 metering device, the department shall determine the date the device was last inspected under Section 2310.102 [13.1015] and the number of complaints received by the department in the previous 12 months 11**-**15 11**-**16 11-17 regarding motor fuel metering devices at the premises where the device subject to the complaint is located. 11-18

(c) The department shall notify the person who last registered the motor fuel metering device and take no further 11-19 11-20 11-21 action on the complaint if:

11-22 (1) The motor fuel metering device was last inspected not more than 18 months before the date the complaint is received; 11-23 11-24 and

11-25 11-26 11-27 the department received not more than two (2) complaints in the previous 12 months regarding motor fuel metering devices at the premises where the device is located.

The department shall notify 11-28 (d) the person who last 11-29 registered the motor fuel metering device and require the device to 11-30 11-31 be inspected by a license holder under Section $\frac{2310.102}{13.1015}$] not later than one month after the notification date if:

11-32 (1) the motor fuel metering device was last inspected 11-33 more than 18 months before the date the complaint is received; or 11-34

(2) the department received at least three complaints in the previous 12 months regarding motor fuel metering devices at 11-36 the premises where the device is located.

SECTION 3. Section 12.020(c), Agriculture Code, is amended 11-37 11-38 to read as follows:

11-39 (c) The provisions of law subject to this section and the 11-40 applicable penalty amounts are as follows: 11 - 41

Provision

11-35

Amount of Penalty

11-42 11-43 Chapters 13, 14A, [17,] 18, 19, 41, 46, 61, 72, 73, 74, 76, 94, 95, 101, 102, 103, 125, 132, and 134 11-44 11-45 11-46 11-47 not more than \$5,000 11-48 11 - 4911-50 11-51 Subchapters A, B, and C, Chapter 71 not more than \$5,000 11-52 Chapter 14 not more than \$10,000 11-53 Chapter 1951, Occupations Code not more than \$5,000 Chapter 153, Natural Resources 11-54 11-55 not more than \$5,000 Code 11-56 Section 91.009 not more than \$5,000. 11-57 SECTION 4. Section 13.001, Agriculture Code, is amended by 11-58 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows: (c) In this chapter, "commodity" does not include motor 11-59 fuel. 11-60 11-61 SECTION 5. Section 13.024(b), Agriculture Code, is amended 11-62 to read as follows: 11-63 (b) Except as provided by <u>Subsection</u> [Subsections] (c) [and (d)], all other measures of capacity for liquids are derived from the gallon by continual division by two, making half gallons, quarts, pints, half pints, and gills. 11-64 11-65 11-66 SECTION 6. Section 13.114, Agriculture Code, is amended to 11-67 11-68 read as follows: 11-69 Sec. 13.114. TOLERANCES. The department shall establish

12-1 specifications and tolerances for commercial weighing or measuring 12-2 devices used in this state. The specifications and tolerances 12-3 shall be similar to those recommended by the National Institute of 12-4 Standards and Technology[, except that the specifications and 12-5 tolerances for motor fuel metering devices shall be the same as 12-6 those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and 12-7 Technology].

12-8 SECTION 7. Section 162.009, Tax Code, is amended to read as 12-9 follows:

12-10 12-11 Sec. 162.009. AUTHORITY TO STOP AND EXAMINE. To enforce this chapter, the comptroller or a peace officer may stop a motor vehicle that appears to be operating with or transporting motor 12-12 fuel to examine the shipping document, cargo manifest, or invoices 12-13 12-14 required to be carried, examine a license or copy of a license that 12**-**15 12**-**16 may be required to be carried, take samples from the fuel supply or cargo tanks, and make any other investigation that could reasonably be made to determine whether the taxes have been paid or accounted 12-17 12-18 for by a license holder or a person required to be licensed. The comptroller, a peace officer, an employee of the attorney general's 12-19 office, an employee of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or an employee of the <u>Texas</u> Department of <u>Licensing and</u> 12-20 12-21 12-22 Regulation [Agriculture] may take samples of motor fuel from a 12-23 storage tank or container to:

12-24 (1) determine if the fuel contains hazardous waste or 12-25 is adulterated; or 12-26 (2) allow the comptroller to determine whether taxes

12-26 (2) allow the comptroller to determine whether taxes 12-27 on the fuel have been paid or accounted for to this state.

12-28 SECTION 8. Section 162.403, Tax Code, is amended to read as 12-29 follows:

12-30 Sec. 162.403. CRIMINAL OFFENSES. Except as provided by 12-31 Section 162.404, a person commits an offense if the person:

12-32 (1) refuses to stop and permit the inspection and 12-33 examination of a motor vehicle transporting or using motor fuel on 12-34 the demand of a peace officer or the comptroller;

12-35 (2) is required to hold a valid trip permit or 12-36 interstate trucker's license, but operates a motor vehicle in this 12-37 state without a valid trip permit or interstate trucker's license;

12-38 (3) transports gasoline or diesel fuel in any cargo 12-39 tank that has a connection by pipe, tube, valve, or otherwise with 12-40 the fuel injector or carburetor or with the fuel supply tank feeding 12-41 the fuel injector or carburetor of the motor vehicle transporting 12-42 the product;

12-43 (4) sells or delivers gasoline or diesel fuel from a 12-44 fuel supply tank that is connected with the fuel injector or 12-45 carburetor of a motor vehicle;

12-46 (5) owns or operates a motor vehicle for which reports 12-47 or mileage records are required by this chapter without an 12-48 operating odometer or other device in good working condition to 12-49 record accurately the miles traveled;

12-50 (6) sells or delivers dyed diesel fuel for the 12-51 operation of a motor vehicle on a public highway;

12-52 (7) uses dyed diesel fuel for the operation of a motor 12-53 vehicle on a public highway except as allowed under Section 12-54 162.235;

12-55 (8) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney 12-56 general to inspect, examine, or audit a book or record required to 12-57 be kept by a license holder, other user, or any person required to 12-58 hold a license under this chapter;

12-59 (9) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney 12-60 general to inspect or examine any plant, equipment, materials, or 12-61 premises where motor fuel is produced, processed, blended, stored, 12-62 sold, delivered, or used;

12-63 (10) refuses to permit the comptroller, the attorney 12-64 general, an employee of either of those officials, a peace officer, 12-65 an employee of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or an 12-66 employee of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation 12-67 [Agriculture] to measure or gauge the contents of or take samples 12-68 from a storage tank or container on premises where motor fuel is 12-69 produced, processed, blended, stored, sold, delivered, or used;

13-1 (11) is a license holder, a person required to be 13-2 licensed, or another user and fails or refuses to make or deliver to 13-3 the comptroller a report required by this chapter to be made and 13-4 delivered to the comptroller;

13-5 (12) is an importer who does not obtain an import 13-6 verification number when required by this chapter;

13-7 (13) purchases motor fuel for export, on which the tax 13-8 imposed by this chapter has not been paid, and subsequently diverts 13-9 or causes the motor fuel to be diverted to a destination in this 13-10 state or any other state or country other than the originally 13-11 designated state or country without first obtaining a diversion 13-12 number;

13-13 (14) conceals motor fuel with the intent of engaging 13-14 in any conduct proscribed by this chapter or refuses to make sales 13-15 of motor fuel on the volume-corrected basis prescribed by this 13-16 chapter;

13-17 (15) refuses, while transporting motor fuel, to stop 13-18 the motor vehicle the person is operating when called on to do so by 13-19 a person authorized to stop the motor vehicle;

13-20 (16) refuses to surrender a motor vehicle and cargo 13-21 for impoundment after being ordered to do so by a person authorized 13-22 to impound the motor vehicle and cargo;

13-23 (17) mutilates, destroys, or secretes a book or record 13-24 required by this chapter to be kept by a license holder, other user, 13-25 or person required to hold a license under this chapter;

13-26 (18) is a license holder, other user, or other person 13-27 required to hold a license under this chapter, or the agent or 13-28 employee of one of those persons, and makes a false entry or fails 13-29 to make an entry in the books and records required under this 13-30 chapter to be made by the person or fails to retain a document as 13-31 required by this chapter;

13-32 (19) transports in any manner motor fuel under a false 13-33 cargo manifest or shipping document, or transports in any manner 13-34 motor fuel to a location without delivering at the same time a 13-35 shipping document relating to that shipment;

13-36 (20) engages in a motor fuel transaction that requires 13-37 that the person have a license under this chapter without then and 13-38 there holding the required license;

13-39 (21) makes and delivers to the comptroller a report 13-40 required under this chapter to be made and delivered to the 13-41 comptroller, if the report contains false information;

13-42 (22) forges, falsifies, or alters an invoice or 13-43 shipping document prescribed by law;

13-44 (23) makes any statement, knowing said statement to be 13-45 false, in a claim for a tax refund filed with the comptroller;

13-46 (24) furnishes to a licensed supplier or distributor a 13-47 signed statement for purchasing diesel fuel tax-free and then uses 13-48 the tax-free diesel fuel to operate a diesel-powered motor vehicle 13-49 on a public highway;

13-50 (25) holds an aviation fuel dealer's license and makes 13-51 a taxable sale or use of any gasoline or diesel fuel;

13-52 (26) fails to remit any tax funds collected or 13-53 required to be collected by a license holder, another user, or any 13-54 other person required to hold a license under this chapter;

13-55 (27) makes a sale of dyed diesel fuel tax-free into a 13-56 storage facility of a person who:

13-57 (A) is not licensed as a distributor, as an 13-58 aviation fuel dealer, or as a dyed diesel fuel bonded user; or

13-59 (B) does not furnish to the licensed supplier or 13-60 distributor a signed statement prescribed in Section 162.206;

13-61 (28) makes a sale of gasoline tax-free to any person 13-62 who is not licensed as an aviation fuel dealer;

13-63 (29) purchases any motor fuel tax-free when not 13-64 authorized to make a tax-free purchase under this chapter;

13-65 (30) purchases motor fuel with the intent to evade any 13-66 tax imposed by this chapter or accepts a delivery of motor fuel by 13-67 any means and does not at the same time accept or receive a shipping 13-68 document relating to the delivery;

13-69 (31) transports motor fuel for which a cargo manifest

14-1 or shipping document is required to be carried without possessing 14-2 or exhibiting on demand by an officer authorized to make the demand 14-3 a cargo manifest or shipping document containing the information 14-4 required to be shown on the manifest or shipping document;

14-5 (32) imports, sells, uses, blends, distributes, or 14-6 stores motor fuel within this state on which the taxes imposed by 14-7 this chapter are owed but have not been first paid to or reported by 14-8 a license holder, another user, or any other person required to hold 14-9 a license under this chapter;

14-10 (33) blends products together to produce a blended 14-11 fuel that is offered for sale, sold, or used and that expands the 14-12 volume of the original product to evade paying applicable motor 14-13 fuel taxes;

14-14 (34) evades or attempts to evade in any manner a tax 14-15 imposed on motor fuel by this chapter; 14-16 (35) delivers compressed natural gas or liquefied

14-16 (35) delivers compressed natural gas or liquefied 14-17 natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle and the 14-18 person does not hold a valid compressed natural gas and liquefied 14-19 natural gas dealer's license; or

14-20 (36) makes a tax-free delivery of compressed natural 14-21 gas or liquefied natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor 14-22 vehicle, unless the delivery is exempt from tax under Section 14-23 162.356.

14-24 SECTION 9. The following provisions of the Agriculture Code 14-25 are repealed:

14-25 14-26 (1)Section 13.001(a)(1-a); 14-27 (2) Section 13.024(d); 14-28 (3)Section 13.029(b); 14-29 (4)Section 13.101(e); 14-30 (5) Section 13.1011(e); 14-31 Section 13.1151(b); and (6)14-32 (7)Chapter 17.

SECTION 10. (a) All rules, fees, policies, procedures, decisions, and forms of the commissioner of agriculture or the Department of Agriculture that relate to a program or activity tarasferred under this Act and that are in effect on the effective date of the transfer remain in effect until changed by the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation.

14-39 (b) A license, permit, certificate of registration, or 14-40 other authorization issued by the Department of Agriculture for a 14-41 program or activity transferred under this Act is continued in 14-42 effect as a license, permit, certificate, or other authorization of 14-43 the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation after the 14-44 effective date of the transfer.

14-45 (c) A complaint, investigation, contested case, or other 14-46 proceeding before the commissioner of agriculture, the Department 14-47 of Agriculture, or the State Office of Administrative Hearings 14-48 relating to a program or activity transferred under this Act that is 14-49 pending on the effective date of the transfer is transferred 14-50 without change in status to the Texas Commission of Licensing and 14-51 Regulation or Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, as 14-52 appropriate.

14-53 (d) All money, contracts, leases, property, records, and 14-54 obligations of the Department of Agriculture relating to a program 14-55 or activity transferred under this Act are transferred to the Texas 14-56 Department of Licensing and Regulation.

14-57 (e) The unexpended and unobligated balance of any money 14-58 appropriated by the legislature relating to a program or activity 14-59 transferred under this Act is transferred to the Texas Department 14-60 of Licensing and Regulation.

14-61 (f) Unless the context indicates otherwise, a reference in 14-62 law or administrative rule to the commissioner of agriculture or 14-63 the Department of Agriculture with respect to a program or activity 14-64 transferred under this Act means the Texas Commission of Licensing 14-65 and Regulation or Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, as 14-66 appropriate.

14-67 SECTION 11. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective 14-68 date of this Act, the Department of Agriculture and the Texas 14-69 Department of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt a transition

15-1 plan to provide for the orderly transfer of powers, duties, 15-2 functions, programs, and activities under this Act. The transition 15-3 plan must provide for the transfer to be completed not later than 15-4 September 1, 2020.

15-5 (b) The Department of Agriculture shall provide the Texas 15-6 Department of Licensing and Regulation with access to any systems, 15-7 facilities, or information necessary for the Texas Department of 15-8 Licensing and Regulation to accept a program or activity 15-9 transferred under this Act.

(c) The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation may 15-11 establish and lead a stakeholder workgroup to provide input, 15-12 advice, and recommendations to the Department of Agriculture and 15-13 Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation on the orderly 15-14 transfer of powers, duties, functions, programs, and activities 15-15 under this Act. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation 15-16 shall establish the size, composition, and scope of the stakeholder 15-17 workgroup.

15-18 (d) On the date specified in the transition plan required under Subsection (a) of this section for the transfer of a program 15-19 or activity transferred by this Act to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, all full-time equivalent employee positions at the Department of Agriculture that directly and 15-20 15-21 15-22 15-23 indirectly concern the administration or enforcement of the program or activity being transferred become positions at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall post the positions for hiring and, 15-24 15**-**25 15**-**26 when filling the positions, shall give consideration to, but is not 15-27 required to hire, an applicant who, immediately before the date of the transfer, was an employee at the Department of Agriculture 15-28 15-29 15-30 involved in administering or enforcing the transferred program or 15-31 activity.

15-32 (e) Subsection (c) of this section and this subsection 15-33 expire October 1, 2020.

15-34 SECTION 12. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of 15-35 this section, this Act takes effect September 1, 2020.

15-36 (b) Section 11 of this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

15-37

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