By: Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Parker) (In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2023; April 27, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; May 12, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 2; May 12, 2023, sent to printer.) 1-1 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 COMMITTEE VOTE 1-6

T-0	COMMITIEE VOIE				
1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Schwertner	Х	-		
1-9	King	Х			
1-10	Birdwell	Х			
1-11	Campbell	Х			
1-12	Creighton	Х			
1-13	Johnson	Х			
1-14	Kolkhorst		Х		
1-15	Menéndez	Х			
1-16	Middleton		Х		
1-17	Nichols	Х			
1-18	Zaffirini	Х			
1-19	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED				

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of a digital occupational license by a 1-21 1-22 1-23 state agency, county, or municipality.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Title 2, Occupations Code, is amended by adding 1-25 Chapter 60 to read as follows: CHAPTER 60. 1-26

DIGITAL LICENSES

60.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter: (1) "Licensing authority" means a <u>Sec.</u> 60.001.

1-27 1-28 state agency county, or municipality that is authorized to issue an occupational 1-29 1-30 license.

(2) "Occupational license" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by statute, ordinance, order, or rule that must be 1-31 1-32 1-33 obtained by an individual to engage in a particular business, 1-34 1-35 occupation, or profession.

Sec. 60.002. REQUIREMENTS FOR DIGITAL LICENSES. A licensing authority that issues an occupational license may issue a digital license to a license holder. If the licensing authority issues a digital license, the digital license must comply with the 1-36 1-37 1-38 1-39 1-40 following requirements:

(1) the digital license must be in a secure format and readily accessible by the license holder through an Internet website and on a wireless communication device; 1-41 1-42 1-43

1 - 44(2) the public must be able to view a license holder's 1-45 digital license through an Internet website or by using a QR code as 1-46 defined by Section 443.001, Health and Safety Code; and

(3) if the authority contracts with a vendor for the issuance of a digital license, the digital license must be in a 1-47 1-48 1-49 format in which the vendor and authority can verify the validity of 1-50 the license.

1-51 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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