

An Update on bills passed during the 82nd Session impacting the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)

TDLR Process Bills

HB 3287 by Giddings – Implemented*

Extends the time for late renewals of licenses from 12 to 18 months, with an additional 18 month extension given at the Executive Director's discretion.

SB 1733 by Van de Putte – Implemented*

Allows military spouses to quickly receive an occupational license if they have held a similar license in other states or previously held a license in Texas. TDLR has worked with the Veterans Commission, Workforce Commission and Department of Defense to help spread the word about this change and encourage eligible applicants to take advantage of this opportunity.

Abolished Programs

HB 3167 by Callegari – Implemented*

Abolishes the state licensing and regulation of talent agencies and personnel services. A separate bill, **SB 1168 by Carona**, also eliminated the licensing requirement for personnel employment services.

New Programs

HB 1451 by Thompson – Will meet September 1, 2012 requirement to begin issuing licenses

Relating to the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders. The advisory board has been appointed and has held several meetings. TDLR will meet the deadline to issue licenses beginning September 1, 2012.

Air Conditioning and Elevators/Escalators

HB 2643 by Hamilton – Rules scheduled for adoption by Commission at its January 25, 2012 meeting for the Air Conditioning portion; will meet statutory deadlines for implementation for Elevator/Escalator portion

Relating to certain health, safety, and professional regulation, including safety standards for elevators, escalators, and related equipment and the licensing and regulation of air conditioning and refrigeration contractors and technicians.

Auctioneers

HB 2519 by Kuempel – Implemented*

Relating to the regulation of certain motor vehicle auctions, clarified the law with respect to auctioneers and motor vehicle dealers.

Barbering and Cosmetology

SB 1170 by Carona – Rule for Barber portion adopted; Rules for Cosmetology portion scheduled for adoption by Commission at its January 25, 2012 meeting

Relating to the regulation of barbers and cosmetologists, contains significant changes for the barbering and cosmetology programs.

HB 2727 by Thompson – Relating to the regulation by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation of the application of eyelash extensions and private beauty culture schools. The provisions of HB 2727 were fully included in SB 1170.

Electricians

HB 1625 by Brown – Implemented*

Relating to the renewal of electrical sign apprentice licenses, provides the same continuing education requirements for electrical sign apprentices that are required of all apprentice electricians. HB 1625 has been fully implemented and electrical sign apprentices renewing on or after September 1, 2012 will take continuing education in order to renew.

SB 1630 by Birdwell – Implemented*

Clarifies definitions as they related to pool-related electrical work.

Property Tax Professionals

HB 1179 by Flynn – Implemented*

Relating to certification requirements for certain property tax professionals, provided reasonable accommodations for licensees who may have missed deadlines due to circumstances outside their control.

Service Contract Providers

SB 1169 by Carona – Rules scheduled for adoption by Commission at its January 25, 2012 meeting

Relating to the regulation of providers, administrators, and sellers of service contracts and identity recovery service contracts; providing penalties. The bill provides greater consumer protection by requiring higher standards of financial security form service contract providers.

Vehicle Towing, Booting and Storage

HB 3510 by Hamilton – Implemented*

Relating to the regulation of the towing, booting, and storage of vehicles, cleans up conflicting statutory language and provides greater consumer protection.

*Implemented bills have had all rules reviewed and commented on by advisory boards and the public and have been adopted by the Commission; interested parties have been notified of all changes; any necessary computer programming changes have been made, forms have been created or altered as necessary and TDLR's website has been updated.