

Chapter 841

H.B. No. 2174

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel
3 metering devices; authorizing fees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 13.001(a), Agriculture Code, is amended
6 by adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

7 (1-a) "Motor fuel metering device" means a commercial
8 weighing or measuring device used for motor fuel sales with a
9 maximum flow rate of 20 gallons per minute or less.

10 SECTION 2. Section 13.029, Agriculture Code, is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 Sec. 13.029. EXEMPTION OF WEIGHING OR MEASURING DEVICES.

13 (a) The department by rule may exempt a weighing or measuring device
14 from a requirement established by this chapter if the department
15 determines that imposing or enforcing the requirement:

16 (1) is not cost-effective for the department;

17 (2) is not feasible with current resources or
18 standards; or

19 (3) will not substantially benefit or protect
20 consumers.

21 (b) A motor fuel metering device is exempt from the
22 requirements of this chapter if the motor fuel metering device is
23 not used to:

24 (1) calculate the amount of fuel sold in a commercial

1 transaction; or

2 (2) compute the charge for service.

3 SECTION 3. Section 13.101, Agriculture Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

5 (e) This section does not apply to a motor fuel metering
6 device.

7 SECTION 4. Section 13.1011, Agriculture Code, is amended by
8 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

9 (e) This section does not apply to a motor fuel metering
10 device.

11 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 13, Agriculture Code, is
12 amended by adding Sections 13.1015, 13.1016, and 13.1017 to read as
13 follows:

14 Sec. 13.1015. INSPECTION OF MOTOR FUEL METERING DEVICES.

15 (a) Unless a motor fuel metering device is exempt from the
16 application of this section by department rule, a motor fuel
17 metering device shall be inspected, tested, and calibrated for
18 correctness by a license holder under Subchapter I at least once
19 every two years if the device is:

20 (1) kept for sale, sold, or used by a proprietor,
21 agent, lessee, or employee in proving the measure of motor fuel; or

22 (2) purchased, offered, or submitted by a proprietor,
23 agent, lessee, or employee for sale, hire, or award.

24 (b) Inspection, testing, and calibration under this section
25 must be performed by a license holder under Subchapter I under
26 contract with the operator or user of the motor fuel metering
27 device.

1 Sec. 13.1016. REQUIRED REGISTRATION OF MOTOR FUEL METERING

2 DEVICES. (a) Unless a motor fuel metering device is exempt from
3 the application of this section by department rule, a person who
4 owns or operates a motor fuel metering device shall register the
5 device with the department before using the device for a commercial
6 transaction.

7 (b) An application for a device registration must:

8 (1) be submitted to the department on a form
9 prescribed by the department;

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

12 (3) include the registration fee required under
13 Section 13.1151; and

14 (4) include documentation of compliance with Section
15 13.1015.

16 (c) A registration under this section is valid for one year
17 unless a different period is established by department rule. The
18 registration must be renewed at or before the end of each
19 registration period and the application for renewal must include
20 documentation of compliance with Section 13.1015.

21 (d) If a person fails to register or renew a registration as
22 required by this section, the department may not issue a
23 certificate to operate the motor fuel metering device. The
24 department shall issue the certificate when the operator submits to
25 the department the items required by Subsection (b).

26 (e) The department may assess a late fee if the registration
27 of one or more devices located on a premises is renewed after the

1 end of the registration period because of a registration error,
2 including one or more devices not properly registered, failure to
3 register the correct type of device, or failure to timely register a
4 previously registered device. The amount of the penalty may not
5 exceed \$50 per device, with a maximum penalty amount of \$500 per
6 year for the premises.

7 Sec. 13.1017. COMPLAINTS REGARDING MOTOR FUEL METERING
8 DEVICES. (a) The department shall receive complaints regarding
9 motor fuel metering devices.

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

16 (c) The department shall notify the person who last
17 registered the motor fuel metering device and take no further
18 action on the complaint if:

19 (1) the motor fuel metering device was last inspected
20 not more than 18 months before the date the complaint is received;
21 and

22 (2) the department received not more than two
23 complaints in the previous 12 months regarding motor fuel metering
24 devices at the premises where the device is located.

25 (d) The department shall notify the person who last
26 registered the motor fuel metering device and require the device to
27 be inspected by a license holder under Section 13.1015 not later

1 than one month after the notification date if:

2 (1) the motor fuel metering device was last inspected
3 more than 18 months before the date the complaint is received; or

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

7 SECTION 6. Section 13.114, Agriculture Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 13.114. TOLERANCES. The department shall establish
10 specifications and tolerances for commercial weighing or measuring
11 devices used in this state. The specifications and tolerances
12 shall be similar to those recommended by the National Institute of
13 Standards and Technology, except that the specifications and
14 tolerances for motor fuel metering devices shall be the same as
15 those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and
16 Technology.

17 SECTION 7. Section 13.1151, Agriculture Code, is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 Sec. 13.1151. FEES FOR REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION. (a)
20 The department may charge the owner or operator of a weighing or
21 measuring device a fee, as provided by department rule, to recover
22 the costs of registration and inspection of a weighing or measuring
23 device required to be registered or inspected under this chapter.

24 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, the department may not in
25 a state fiscal biennium increase a fee under Subsection (a) for a
26 motor fuel metering device by an amount that exceeds 10 percent of
27 the amount of the fee at the end of the preceding state fiscal

1 biennium.

2 SECTION 8. Section 17.072, Agriculture Code, is amended by
3 amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (a-1) to
4 read as follows:

5 (a) The department or a representative of the department may
6 collect samples and conduct testing at any location where motor
7 fuel is kept, transferred, sold, or offered for sale, to verify that
8 the motor fuel complies with the minimum standards required by
9 Section 17.071.

10 (a-1) The collection of samples and conducting of testing at
11 a dealer's location must be performed by a license holder under
12 Subchapter I, Chapter 13, under contract with the dealer. The
13 license holder is considered a representative of the department for
14 purposes of this section.

15 (b) On arriving at a facility to conduct testing under
16 Subsection (a), a representative of the department shall notify the
17 owner or manager of the facility of the representative's presence
18 and purpose. The department representative shall follow the most
19 recent applicable procedures specified by ASTM International
20 Standard D4057, D4177, D5842, or D5854 for the collection,
21 sampling, and handling of fuel to prepare for laboratory analysis.

22 SECTION 9. Section 17.073(a), Agriculture Code, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 (a) If the department has laboratory results to confirm
25 ~~[reason to believe]~~ that motor fuel is in violation of this chapter
26 or a rule adopted under this chapter, or that the motor fuel is
27 being sold or offered for sale in a manner that violates this

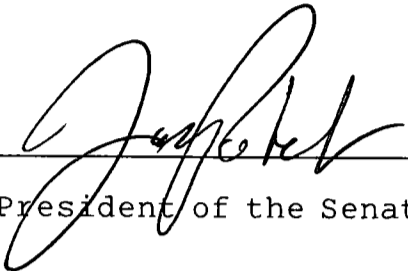
1 chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter, the department may:

2 (1) issue and enforce a written order to stop the sale
3 of the motor fuel;

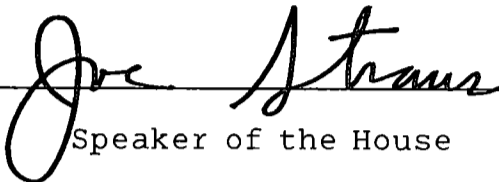
4 (2) place on a device used to dispense the motor fuel a
5 tag or other mark with the words "Out of Order"; or

6 (3) stop the sale of the motor fuel and mark a device
7 used to dispense the motor fuel as out of order.

8 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.



President of the Senate



Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2174 was passed by the House on May 3, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2174 on May 25, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 11, 2 present, not voting.



Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2174 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.



Secretary of the Senate

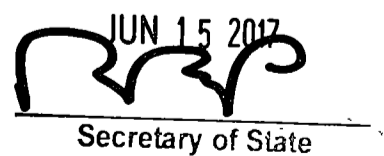
APPROVED: 6-10-2017

Date



Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
3 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 15 2017


Secretary of State

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 24, 2017

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2174 by Darby (Relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel metering devices; authorizing fees.), **As Passed 2nd House**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2174, As Passed 2nd House: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0
2021	\$0
2022	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from General Revenue Fund 1	Probable Savings/(Cost) from Appropriated Receipts 666	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from Appropriated Receipts 666
2018	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2019	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2020	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2021	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2022	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
2018	(8.0)
2019	(8.0)
2020	(8.0)
2021	(8.0)
2022	(8.0)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 13, to define a "motor fuel metering device" and to require that inspection, testing, and calibration of motor fuel metering devices be performed by a license holder under contract with the operator or user of the motor fuel metering device. The bill would exempt the motor fuel metering devices from inspection and registration requirements for weighting and measuring devices. The bill would add inspection requirements for motor fuel metering devices, requiring that the devices be inspected at least once every two years. The bill would also add annual registration requirements for motor fuel metering devices; applications for registration must include a registration fee required by Texas Agriculture Code, Section 13.1151 to recover the costs of registration and inspection of the motor fuel metering devices. TDA would be prohibited from increasing this fee in a state fiscal biennium by an amount that exceeds ten percent of the amount of the fee at the end of the preceding state fiscal biennium. The bill would authorize a registration late fee to be assessed by TDA, not to exceed \$50 per device and \$500 per year for a premise. The bill would require that the specifications and tolerances for motor fuel metering devices be the same as those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. TDA would be required to receive complaints regarding motor fuel metering devices, to notify the person who last registered the device and, under certain circumstances defined by the bill, to require the device to be inspected by a license holder.

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 17, to require that sampling and testing activities of certain fuel mixtures be performed by a license holder under contract with the dealer. The bill would amend testing and sampling requirements to allow a contracted entity to perform them, and would require the contracted entity to follow certain collection, sampling, and handling procedures. Stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices would have to be based on laboratory results confirming a violation.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

Methodology

TDA estimates that approximately 14.0 FTEs would be eliminated from the Fuel Quality program and the Weights and Measures program as a result of the privatization of certain inspection and registration activities. TDA estimates that approximately 8.0 of these FTEs are currently funded through cost-recovered General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and have a total cost of \$477,315 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 8.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. TDA estimates that 6.0 of the FTEs are currently funded through Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program and have a total cost of \$357,986 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 6.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts. In addition, there is an indeterminate amount of savings associated with other operating expenses and miscellaneous administrative expenses as a result of elimination of

these functions.

TDA estimates that in order to verify the compliance of an increased number of license holders, 6.0 additional FTEs would be required (one Manager and five Program Specialists). This estimate assumes that the FTEs would be partially funded by cost recovery General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and partially by Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program. The cost of the FTEs funded by General Revenue is estimated by this analysis to total \$339,592 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. The cost of the FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts is estimated by this analysis to total \$172,598 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts.

TDA estimates that the bill's requirement that stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices be based on laboratory results confirming a violation would require increased laboratory analysis of fuel quality samples. This analysis assumes that the cost of the laboratory analysis of samples would be borne by TDA instead of the dealer. TDA estimates that 20,527 routine fuel quality samples would be required to be tested per biennium under the provisions of the bill, and 1,400 fuel quality samples are tested as a result of complaints per biennium. Testing each fuel quality sample costs \$350, according to the agency, for a total biennial cost of \$7,674,450, or \$3,837,225 each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the cost of the contract would be recovered by fees as Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program each fiscal year.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: UP, SD, MSO, AG, MW, CL

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 18, 2017

TO: Honorable Robert Nichols, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2174 by Darby (Relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel metering devices; authorizing fees.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2174, Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0
2021	\$0
2022	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666
2018	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
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2022	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
2018	(8 0)
2019	(8 0)
2020	(8 0)
2021	(8 0)
2022	(8 0)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 13, to define a "motor fuel metering device" and to require that inspection, testing, and calibration of motor fuel metering devices be performed by a license holder under contract with the operator or user of the motor fuel metering device. The bill would exempt the motor fuel metering devices from inspection and registration requirements for weighting and measuring devices. The bill would add inspection requirements for motor fuel metering devices, requiring that the devices be inspected at least once every two years. The bill would also add annual registration requirements for motor fuel metering devices; applications for registration must include a registration fee required by Texas Agriculture Code, Section 13.1151 to recover the costs of registration and inspection of the motor fuel metering devices. TDA would be prohibited from increasing this fee in a state fiscal biennium by an amount that exceeds ten percent of the amount of the fee at the end of the preceding state fiscal biennium. The bill would authorize a registration late fee to be assessed by TDA, not to exceed \$50 per device and \$500 per year for a premise. The bill would require that the specifications and tolerances for motor fuel metering devices be the same as those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. TDA would be required to receive complaints regarding motor fuel metering devices, to notify the person who last registered the device and, under certain circumstances defined by the bill, to require the device to be inspected by a license holder.

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 17, to require that sampling and testing activities of certain fuel mixtures be performed by a license holder under contract with the dealer. The bill would amend testing and sampling requirements to allow a contracted entity to perform them, and would require the contracted entity to follow certain collection, sampling, and handling procedures. Stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices would have to be based on laboratory results confirming a violation.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

Methodology

TDA estimates that approximately 14.0 FTEs would be eliminated from the Fuel Quality program and the Weights and Measures program as a result of the privatization of certain inspection and registration activities. TDA estimates that approximately 8.0 of these FTEs are currently funded through cost-recovered General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and have a total cost of \$477,315 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 8.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. TDA estimates that 6.0 of the FTEs are currently funded through Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program and have a total cost of \$357,986 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 6.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts. In addition, there is an indeterminate amount of savings associated with other operating expenses and miscellaneous administrative expenses as a result of elimination of

these functions.

TDA estimates that in order to verify the compliance of an increased number of license holders, 6.0 additional FTEs would be required (one Manager and five Program Specialists). This estimate assumes that the FTEs would be partially funded by cost recovery General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and partially by Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program. The cost of the FTEs funded by General Revenue is estimated by this analysis to total \$339,592 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. The cost of the FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts is estimated by this analysis to total \$172,598 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts.

TDA estimates that the bill's requirement that stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices be based on laboratory results confirming a violation would require increased laboratory analysis of fuel quality samples. This analysis assumes that the cost of the laboratory analysis of samples would be borne by TDA instead of the dealer. TDA estimates that 20,527 routine fuel quality samples would be required to be tested per biennium under the provisions of the bill, and 1,400 fuel quality samples are tested as a result of complaints per biennium. Testing each fuel quality sample costs \$350, according to the agency, for a total biennial cost of \$7,674,450, or \$3,837,225 each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the cost of the contract would be recovered by fees as Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program each fiscal year.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: UP, MSO, AG, MW, CL

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 7, 2017

TO: Honorable Robert Nichols, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2174 by Darby (Relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel metering devices.), **As Engrossed**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2174, As Engrossed: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0
2021	\$0
2022	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666
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Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
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Fiscal Analysis

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The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 17, to require that sampling and testing activities of certain fuel mixtures be performed by a license holder under contract with the dealer. The bill would amend testing and sampling requirements to allow a contracted entity to perform them, and would require the contracted entity to follow certain collection, sampling, and handling procedures. Stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices would have to be based on laboratory results confirming a violation.

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other operating expenses and miscellaneous administrative expenses as a result of elimination of these functions.

TDA estimates that in order to verify the compliance of an increased number of license holders, 6.0 additional FTEs would be required (one Manager and five Program Specialists). This estimate assumes that the FTEs would be partially funded by cost recovery General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and partially by Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program. The cost of the FTEs funded by General Revenue is estimated by this analysis to total \$339,592 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. The cost of the FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts is estimated by this analysis to total \$172,598 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts.

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Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: UP, AG, MW, MSO, CL

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 19, 2017

TO: Honorable John Kuempel, Chair, House Committee on Licensing & Administrative Procedures

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2174 by Darby (Relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel metering devices.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2174, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

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General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

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All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from General Revenue Fund 1	Probable Savings/(Cost) from Appropriated Receipts 666	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from Appropriated Receipts 666
2018	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2019	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2020	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2021	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837
2022	\$137,723	(\$137,723)	(\$3,651,837)	\$3,651,837

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
2018	(8 0)
2019	(8 0)
2020	(8 0)
2021	(8 0)
2022	(8 0)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 13, to define a "motor fuel metering device" and to require that inspection, testing, and calibration of motor fuel metering devices be performed by a license holder under contract with the operator or user of the motor fuel metering device. The bill would exempt the motor fuel metering devices from inspection and registration requirements for weighting and measuring devices. The bill would add inspection requirements for motor fuel metering devices, requiring that the devices be inspected at least once every two years. The bill would also add annual registration requirements for motor fuel metering devices; applications for registration must include a registration fee required by Texas Agriculture Code, Section 13.1151 to recover the costs of registration and inspection of the motor fuel metering devices. TDA would be prohibited from increasing this fee in a state fiscal biennium by an amount that exceeds five percent of the amount of the fee at the end of the preceding state fiscal biennium. The bill would authorize a registration late fee to be assessed by TDA, not to exceed \$250 per year for a premise. The bill would require that the specifications and tolerances for motor fuel metering devices be the same as those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 17, to require that sampling and testing activities of certain fuel mixtures be performed by a license holder under contract with the dealer. The bill would amend testing and sampling requirements to allow a contracted entity to perform them, and would require the contracted entity to follow certain collection, sampling, and handling procedures. Stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices would have to be based on laboratory results confirming a violation.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

Methodology

TDA estimates that approximately 14.0 FTEs would be eliminated from the Fuel Quality program and the Weights and Measures program as a result of the privatization of certain inspection and registration activities. TDA estimates that approximately 8.0 of these FTEs are currently funded through cost-recovered General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and have a total cost of \$477,315 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 8.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. TDA estimates that 6.0 of the FTEs are currently funded through Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program and have a total cost of \$357,986 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 6.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts. In addition, there is an indeterminate amount of savings associated with other operating expenses and miscellaneous administrative expenses as a result of elimination of these functions.

TDA estimates that in order to verify the compliance of an increased number of license holders,

6.0 additional FTEs would be required (one Manager and five Program Specialists). This estimate assumes that the FTEs would be partially funded by cost recovery General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and partially by Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program. The cost of the FTEs funded by General Revenue is estimated by this analysis to total \$339,592 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue fund. The cost of the FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts is estimated by this analysis to total \$172,598 each fiscal year; this analysis assumes that these costs would be offset by an increase in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts.

TDA estimates that the bill's requirement that stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices be based on laboratory results confirming a violation would require increased laboratory analysis of fuel quality samples. This analysis assumes that the cost of the laboratory analysis of samples would be borne by TDA instead of the dealer. TDA estimates that 20,527 routine fuel quality samples would be required to be tested per biennium under the provisions of the bill, and 1,400 fuel quality samples are tested as a result of complaints per biennium. Testing each fuel quality sample costs \$350, according to the agency, for a total biennial cost of \$7,674,450, or \$3,837,225 each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the cost of the contract would be recovered by fees as Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program each fiscal year.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: UP, CL, MW, MSO

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 10, 2017

TO: Honorable John Kuempel, Chair, House Committee on Licensing & Administrative Procedures

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB2174** by Darby (Relating to the regulation of motor fuel quality and motor fuel metering devices.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2174, As Introduced: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0
2021	\$0
2022	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable (Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Revenue Gain from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Revenue Gain from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666	Probable Revenue (Loss) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666
2018	(\$4,992,805)	\$4,992,805	\$238,737	(\$238,737)
2019	(\$4,992,805)	\$4,992,805	\$238,737	(\$238,737)
2020	(\$4,992,805)	\$4,992,805	\$238,737	(\$238,737)
2021	(\$4,992,805)	\$4,992,805	\$238,737	(\$238,737)
2022	(\$4,992,805)	\$4,992,805	\$238,737	(\$238,737)

Fiscal Year	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
2018	(10.0)
2019	(10.0)
2020	(10.0)
2021	(10.0)
2022	(10.0)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 13, to define a "motor fuel metering device" and to require the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) to contract with license holders to perform required motor fuel metering device registration and inspection activities. The bill would exempt the motor fuel metering devices from inspection and registration requirements for weighting and measuring devices. The bill would add inspection requirements for motor fuel metering devices, requiring that the devices be inspected at least once every two years. The bill would also add annual registration requirements for motor fuel metering devices; applications for registration must include a registration fee required by Texas Agriculture Code, Section 13.1151 to recover the costs of registration and inspection of the motor fuel metering devices. The bill would require that the specifications and tolerances for motor fuel metering devices be the same as those recommended by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The bill would amend Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 17, to require TDA to contract with license holders to perform activities related to the sale and regulation of certain fuel mixtures. The bill would amend testing and sampling requirements to allow a contracted entity to perform them, and would require the contracted entity to follow certain collection, sampling, and handling procedures. Stop-sale orders or shutdown of dispensing devices would have to be based on laboratory results confirming a violation.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

Methodology

TDA estimates that approximately 14.0 FTEs would be eliminated from the Fuel Quality program and the Weights and Measures program as a result of the privatization of certain inspection and registration activities. TDA estimates that approximately 8.0 of these FTEs are currently funded through cost-recovered General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and have a total cost of \$477,315 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 8.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited to the credit of the General Revenue Fund. TDA estimates that 6.0 of the FTEs are currently funded through Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program and have a total cost of \$357,986 for salaries and other benefits expenses each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the savings associated with these 6.0 FTEs would be offset by a reduction in fee revenue deposited as Appropriated Receipts. In addition, there is an indeterminate amount of savings associated with other operating expenses and miscellaneous administrative expenses as a result of elimination of these functions.

TDA estimates that implementing and overseeing the contract required by the bill would require 4.0 additional FTEs, with approximately 2.7 of these FTEs funded by cost recovery General Revenue in the Weights and Measures program and 1.3 of the FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts in the Fuel Quality program. The 2.7 FTEs funded by cost recovery General Revenue are

estimated by TDA to have a total cost of \$232,895 each fiscal year; the 1.3 FTEs funded by Appropriated Receipts are estimated by TDA to have total cost of \$119,250.

TDA estimates that license service companies charge a rate of \$75 per hour plus a \$45 trip charge for travel. A typical location selling retail motor fuel has an average of 20 meters in operation, and that approximately 1.5 hours of inspection time would be required to inspect these devices, according to the agency. The fuel quality sample charge is \$2.13 per meter. TDA therefore estimates that the average cost of inspection at a typical location would total approximately \$200 per location, or \$10 per meter. The number of meters TDA estimates the contracted service would be required to inspect every two years, as required by the bill, is 280,000 meters. The cost of these inspections is estimated to total \$2,800,000 per biennium, or \$1,400,000 each fiscal year.

The bill would also require that the fuel quality samples be tested routinely and as a result of complaints by the contracted entity. TDA estimates that 20,527 routine samples would be required to be tested per biennium under the provisions of the bill, and 1,400 samples are tested as result of complaints per biennium. Testing each sample costs \$350, according to the agency, for a total biennial cost of \$7,674,450, or \$3,837,225 each fiscal year.

Metering services and laboratory testing activities would total \$5,237,225 each fiscal year. This analysis assumes that the cost of the contract would be recovered by fees deposited to the credit of the General Revenue Fund each fiscal year.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: UP, CL, MW, MSO