

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 969

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a length exemption for a vehicle or combination of  
3 vehicles used to transport a combine used in farm custom harvesting  
4 operations.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 622.902, Transportation Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 622.902. LENGTH EXCEPTIONS. The length limitations  
9 provided by Sections 621.203 to 621.205 do not apply to:

10 (1) machinery used exclusively for drilling water  
11 wells, including machinery that is itself a unit or that is a unit  
12 mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis;

13 (2) a vehicle owned or operated by a public, private,  
14 or volunteer fire department;

15 (3) a vehicle or combination of vehicles operated  
16 exclusively in the territory of a municipality or to a combination  
17 of vehicles operated by a municipality in a suburb adjoining the  
18 municipality in which the municipality has been using the equipment  
19 or similar equipment in connection with an established service to  
20 the suburb;

21 (4) a truck-tractor, truck-tractor combination, or  
22 truck-trailer combination exclusively transporting machinery,  
23 materials, and equipment used in the construction, operation, and  
24 maintenance of facilities, including pipelines, that are used for

1 the discovery, production, and processing of natural gas or  
2 petroleum;

3 (5) a drive-away saddlemount vehicle transporter  
4 combination or a drive-away saddlemount with fullmount vehicle  
5 transporter combination, as defined by 23 C.F.R. Part 658 or its  
6 successor, if:

7 (A) the overall length of the combination is not  
8 longer than 97 feet; and

9 (B) the combination does not have more than three  
10 saddlemounted vehicles if the combination does not include more  
11 than one fullmount vehicle;

12 (6) the combination of a tow truck and another vehicle  
13 or vehicle combination if:

14 (A) the other vehicle or vehicle combination  
15 cannot be normally or safely driven or was abandoned on a highway;  
16 and

17 (B) the tow truck is towing the other vehicle or  
18 vehicle combination directly to the nearest authorized place of  
19 repair, terminal, or destination of unloading; or

20 (7) a vehicle or combination of vehicles used to  
21 transport a combine that is used in farm custom harvesting  
22 operations on a farm if the overall length of the vehicle or  
23 combination is not longer than:

24 (A) 75 feet if the vehicle is traveling on a  
25 highway that is part of the national system of interstate and  
26 defense highways or the federal aid primary highway system; or

27 (B) 81-1/2 feet if the vehicle is not traveling

1 on a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and  
2 defense highways or the federal aid primary highway system.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.