

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 969
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 19, 2009; March 9, 2009,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture and Rural
1-4 Affairs; April 1, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 1, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to a length exemption for a vehicle or combination of
1-9 vehicles used to transport a combine used in farm custom harvesting
1-10 operations.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 622.902, Transportation Code, is amended
1-13 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 622.902. LENGTH EXCEPTIONS. The length limitations
1-15 provided by Sections 621.203 to 621.205 do not apply to:

1-16 (1) machinery used exclusively for drilling water
1-17 wells, including machinery that is itself a unit or that is a unit
1-18 mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis;

1-19 (2) a vehicle owned or operated by a public, private,
1-20 or volunteer fire department;

1-21 (3) a vehicle or combination of vehicles operated
1-22 exclusively in the territory of a municipality or to a combination
1-23 of vehicles operated by a municipality in a suburb adjoining the
1-24 municipality in which the municipality has been using the equipment
1-25 or similar equipment in connection with an established service to
1-26 the suburb;

1-27 (4) a truck-tractor, truck-tractor combination, or
1-28 truck-trailer combination exclusively transporting machinery,
1-29 materials, and equipment used in the construction, operation, and
1-30 maintenance of facilities, including pipelines, that are used for
1-31 the discovery, production, and processing of natural gas or
1-32 petroleum;

1-33 (5) a drive-away saddlemount vehicle transporter
1-34 combination or a drive-away saddlemount with fullmount vehicle
1-35 transporter combination, as defined by 23 C.F.R. Part 658 or its
1-36 successor, if:

1-37 (A) the overall length of the combination is not
1-38 longer than 97 feet; and

1-39 (B) the combination does not have more than three
1-40 saddlemounted vehicles if the combination does not include more
1-41 than one fullmount vehicle;

1-42 (6) the combination of a tow truck and another vehicle
1-43 or vehicle combination if:

1-44 (A) the other vehicle or vehicle combination
1-45 cannot be normally or safely driven or was abandoned on a highway;
1-46 and

1-47 (B) the tow truck is towing the other vehicle or
1-48 vehicle combination directly to the nearest authorized place of
1-49 repair, terminal, or destination of unloading; or

1-50 (7) a vehicle or combination of vehicles used to
1-51 transport a combine that is used in farm custom harvesting
1-52 operations on a farm if the overall length of the vehicle or
1-53 combination is not longer than:

1-54 (A) 75 feet if the vehicle is traveling on a
1-55 highway that is part of the national system of interstate and
1-56 defense highways or the federal aid primary highway system; or

1-57 (B) 81-1/2 feet if the vehicle is not traveling
1-58 on a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and
1-59 defense highways or the federal aid primary highway system.

1-60 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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