

By: Lavender

H.B. No. 3418

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to oversize or overweight vehicles transporting timber or timber products.

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

SECTION 1. Section 622.041, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 622.041. WEIGHT AND LENGTH LIMITATION. (a) A person may operate over a highway or road of this state a vehicle or combination of vehicles that is being used to transport ~~[exclusively for transporting poles, piling, or]~~ unrefined timber, wood chips, or woody biomass ~~[from the point of origin of the timber (the forest where the timber is felled) to a wood processing mill]~~ if:

(1) the vehicle, or combination of vehicles, is not longer than 90 feet, including the load; ~~and~~

(2) the distance from the point of origin to the destination or delivery point does not exceed 150 ~~[125]~~ miles; and

(3) when the maximum allowable gross weight authorized by a permit issued under Section 623.011 for the vehicle or combination of vehicles is:

(A) not exceeded, the gross load carried on any tandem axle of the vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed 44,000 pounds; or

(B) exceeded, the vehicle or combination of

1 vehicles complies with the requirements of Section 621.101(b).

2 (b) Section 621.508 does not apply to a vehicle or
3 combination of vehicles operated under this section. [~~Subsection~~
4 ~~(a)(1) does not apply to a truck-tractor or truck-tractor~~
5 ~~combination transporting poles, piling, or unrefined timber.~~]

6 SECTION 2. Section 622.043, Transportation Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 622.043. CONFORMITY WITH GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING
9 TO VEHICLE SIZE AND WEIGHT. Except as otherwise provided by this
10 subchapter, the [~~The~~] width, height, and gross weight of a vehicle
11 or combination of vehicles subject to this subchapter shall conform
12 to Chapter 621.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.