By: Miller of Comal (Senate Sponsor - Perry)

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2015;
May 6, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs; May 26, 2015, reported 1-1 1-2 1-3 1-4 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 26, 2015, sent 1-5 1-6 to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE 1-7

| 1-8 | | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-9 | Perry | X | | | |
| 1-10 | Zaffirini | | | X | |
| 1-11 | Creighton | X | | | |
| 1-12 | Hall | X | | | |
| 1-13 | Hinojosa | X | | | |
| 1-14 | Kolkhorst | X | | | |
| 1-15 | Rodríquez | X | | | |

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1-18 relating to water well drillers and pump installers; authorizing 1-19 fees.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1901.152, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

LICENSE APPLICATION[; EXAMINATION FEE]. Sec. 1901.152. [(a)] An applicant [application] for a license must submit to the department [contain]:

(1)an application that includes:

(A) (B) the applicant's name;

 $[\frac{(2)}{2}]$ the applicant's business address;

 $[\frac{3}{3}]$ the applicant's permanent mailing (C)

address; and

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(D) [(4)] any other relevant information required by the department; and [-]

(2) [(b) An applicant must pay to the department] an application -[examination] fee [at the time the application submitted].

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1901, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1901.153 to read as follows:

Sec. 1901.153. APPRENTICE DRILLER PROGRAM. The commission by rule shall establish an apprentice driller program.

SECTION 3. Section 1901.201, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1901.201. [FREQUENCY OF] EXAMINATION. [$\frac{(a)}{(a)}$] department shall offer examinations for a license under this chapter [at least once each year].

(b) The department shall offer examinations if more **frequently** than 10 persons petition for an additional examination.

SECTION 4. Section 1901.251(b), Occupations Code, amended to read as follows:

- (b) Not later than the 60th day after the date of the completion or cessation of drilling, deepening, or otherwise altering the well, the driller shall deliver, [or] send by first class [certified] mail, or provide electronically a copy of the $\overline{\text{well log to:}}$
 - (1)the department;
- (2) the Texas <u>Commission on Environmental Quality</u> [Natural Resource Conservation Commission]; and
- (3) the owner of the well or the person for whom the well was drilled.
- 1-60 SECTION 5. Subchapter D, Chapter 1902, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1902.153 to read as follows: 1-61

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Sec. 1902.153. APPRENTICE PUMP INSTALLER PROGRAM. The commission by rule shall establish an apprentice pump installer program.

SECTION 6. Section 1902.201, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1902.201. [FREQUENCY OF] EXAMINATION. [$\frac{a}{a}$] The department shall offer examinations for a license under this chapter [at least once each month].

[(b) The department shall offer examinations more frequently if more than 10 persons petition for an additional examination.]

SECTION 7. Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules to implement the changes in law made by this Act to Chapters 1901 and 1902, Occupations Code.

SECTION 8. The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation may not require a person to hold a license or license specialty endorsement as an apprentice driller or apprentice pump installer under Sections 1901.153 and 1902.153, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, before June 1, 2016.

SECTION 9. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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