

By: Springer

H.B. No. 3350

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the exemption from length limitations of certain vehicles or combinations of vehicles used to transport harvest machines.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) a truck-tractor, truck-tractor combination, or truck-trailer combination exclusively transporting machinery, materials, and equipment used in the construction, operation, and 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~~ harvest machine that is used in farm custom  
22 harvesting operations on a farm if the overall length of the vehicle  
23 or 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 of truck-tractor, semitrailer,

1 and trailer combination, excluding the length of the towing device,  
2 if the vehicle is not traveling on a highway that is part of the  
3 national system of interstate and defense highways or the federal  
4 aid primary highway system.

5       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.