

By: King of Uvalde

H.R. No. 2042

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Pest control businesses incur many costs to comply  
2 with Texas Department of Agriculture regulations; and

3           WHEREAS, In a single year, a two-person pest control  
4 operation will easily spend more than \$3,000 on compliance costs;  
5 for instance, a business with a Certified Applicator and an  
6 apprentice working toward technician status would need to pay not  
7 only for the appropriate licenses but also for classes, liability  
8 insurance, inspections, recordkeeping, criminal background checks,  
9 and other requirements; and

10           WHEREAS, Businesses that do not comply with TDA regulations  
11 can expect to incur much lower expenses than those that do;  
12 scofflaws may receive a mere warning, and if they do receive a  
13 penalty for operating without a license or without insurance, the  
14 amount will likely prove less than the cost of meeting  
15 requirements; moreover, the final penalty may be lowered further or  
16 not collected at all; and

17           WHEREAS, Failure to enforce regulations provides incentives  
18 for businesses to ignore the law, raising public health and safety  
19 concerns and creating a competitive advantage for such businesses;  
20 in order to ensure compliance and level the playing field,  
21 regulations and enforcement policies must be more effective and  
22 better aligned; now, therefore, be it

23           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
24 Legislature hereby request the speaker to direct the House

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1 Agriculture and Livestock Committee to conduct an interim study  
2 reviewing the rules, regulations, and enforcement authority of the  
3 Texas Department of Agriculture's Structural Pest Control Service;  
4 and, be it further

5       RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including  
6 its findings and recommendations, to the House of Representatives  
7 of the 86th Texas Legislature before it convenes in January 2019.