86R9119 JRR-F

By:  Thompson of Brazoria H.B. No. 2094

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the administration of and funding for the Texas emissions reduction plan.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 386.104, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (c-1) and (c-2) to read as follows:

(c)  Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, for [~~For~~] a proposed project as described by Section 386.102(b), other than a project involving a marine vessel or engine, not less than 75 percent of vehicle miles traveled or hours of operation projected for the five years immediately following the award of a grant must be projected to take place in a nonattainment area or affected county of this state. The commission may set the minimum percentage of vehicle miles traveled or hours of operation required to take place in a nonattainment area or affected county at a percentage and for a period that is different from the percentage and period specified by this subsection. The commission may [~~also~~] allow vehicle travel on highways and roadways, or portions of a highway or roadway, designated by the commission and located outside a nonattainment area or affected county to count towards the percentage of use requirement in this subsection.

(c-1)  For a proposed project involving a marine vessel or engine, the vessel or engine must be operated in the intercoastal waterways or bays adjacent to a nonattainment area or affected county of this state for a sufficient amount of time over the lifetime of the project, as determined by the commission, to meet the cost-effectiveness requirements of Section 386.105.

(c-2)  For a proposed project involving non-road equipment used for natural gas recovery purposes, the equipment must be operated in a nonattainment area or affected county for a sufficient amount of use over the lifetime of the project, as determined by the commission, to meet the cost-effectiveness requirements of Section 386.105.

SECTION 2.  Section 386.116(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  In this section, "small business" means a business owned by a person who:

(1)  owns and operates not more than six [~~five~~] vehicles, one of which is:

(A)  an on-road diesel; or

(B)  a non-road diesel; and

(2)  has owned the vehicle described by Subdivision (1)(A) or (B) for more than two years.

SECTION 3.  Section 386.251(c), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  The fund consists of:

(1)  the amount of money deposited to the credit of the fund under:

(A)  Section 386.056;

(B)  Section [~~Sections 151.0515 and~~] 152.0215, Tax Code; and

(C)  Sections 501.138, 502.358, and 548.5055, Transportation Code; and

(2)  grant money recaptured under Section 386.111(d) and Chapter 391.

SECTION 4.  Section 386.252, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (i) to read as follows:

(a)  Money in the fund may be used only to implement and administer programs established under the plan.  Subject to the reallocation of funds by the commission under Subsection (h), money appropriated to the commission to be used for the programs under Section 386.051(b) shall initially be allocated as follows:

(1)  four percent may be used for the clean school bus program under Chapter 390;

(2)  one [~~three~~] percent may be used for the new technology implementation grant program under Chapter 391, from which at least $1 million will be set aside for electricity storage projects related to renewable energy;

(3)  five percent may be used for the Texas clean fleet program under Chapter 392;

(4)  not more than $3 million may be used by the commission to fund a regional air monitoring program in commission Regions 3 and 4 to be implemented under the commission's oversight, including direction regarding the type, number, location, and operation of, and data validation practices for, monitors funded by the program through a regional nonprofit entity located in North Texas having representation from counties, municipalities, higher education institutions, and private sector interests across the area;

(5)  10 percent may be used for the Texas natural gas vehicle grant program under Chapter 394;

(6)  not more than $6 million may be used for the Texas alternative fueling facilities program under Chapter 393, of which a specified amount may be used for fueling stations to provide natural gas fuel, except that money may not be allocated for the Texas alternative fueling facilities program for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2019;

(7)  not more than $750,000 may be used each year to support research related to air quality as provided by Chapter 387;

(8)  not more than $200,000 may be used for a health effects study;

(9)  at least $6 million but not more than $8 million is allocated to the commission for administrative costs, including all direct and indirect costs for administering the plan, costs for conducting outreach and education activities, and costs attributable to the review or approval of applications for marketable emissions reduction credits;

(10)  six percent may be used by the commission for the seaport and rail yard areas emissions reduction program established under Subchapter D-1;

(11)  five percent may be used for the light-duty motor vehicle purchase or lease incentive program established under Subchapter D;

(12)  not more than $216,000 is allocated to the commission to contract with the Energy Systems Laboratory at the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station annually for the development and annual computation of creditable statewide emissions reductions obtained through wind and other renewable energy resources for the state implementation plan;

(13)  not more than $500,000 may be used for studies of or pilot programs for incentives for port authorities located in nonattainment areas or affected counties to encourage cargo movement that reduces emissions of nitrogen oxides and particulate matter; and

(14)  the balance is to be used by the commission for the diesel emissions reduction incentive program under Subchapter C as determined by the commission.

(i)  Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, money in the fund, other than money in the non-road diesel subaccount established under Section 386.253, may not be used for a purpose described by Section 386.253(c).

SECTION 5.  Subchapter F, Chapter 386, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 386.253 to read as follows:

Sec. 386.253.  NON-ROAD DIESEL SUBACCOUNT; USE OF SUBACCOUNT. (a) The non-road diesel subaccount is established in the fund.

(b)  The subaccount consists of the amount of money deposited to the credit of the subaccount under Section 151.0515, Tax Code. Interest earned on the subaccount shall be credited to the subaccount.

(c)  Money in the subaccount may be used only to:

(1)  provide grants for non-road diesels, as that term is described by Section 386.101, under a program established under the plan; and

(2)  implement and administer a program described by Subdivision (1), but only to the extent that the program relates to the issuance of grants for non-road diesels.

SECTION 6.  Sections 151.0515(c) and (d), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c)  The surcharge shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner and shall be administered and enforced in the same manner as the tax imposed under this chapter. The comptroller shall adopt any additional procedures needed for the collection, administration, and enforcement of the surcharge authorized by this section and shall deposit all remitted surcharges to the credit of the non-road diesel subaccount in the Texas emissions reduction plan fund.

(d)  This section expires on the last day of the state fiscal biennium during which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality publishes in the Texas Register the notice required by Section 382.037, Health and Safety Code [~~August 31, 2019~~].

SECTION 7.  Section 152.0215(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  This section expires on the last day of the state fiscal biennium during which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality publishes in the Texas Register the notice required by Section 382.037, Health and Safety Code [~~August 31, 2019~~].

SECTION 8.  Section 501.138(b-3), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-3)  This subsection and Subsection (b-2) expire on the last day of the state fiscal biennium during which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality publishes in the Texas Register the notice required by Section 382.037, Health and Safety Code [~~August 31, 2019~~].

SECTION 9.  Section 502.358(c), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  This section expires on the last day of the state fiscal biennium during which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality publishes in the Texas Register the notice required by Section 382.037, Health and Safety Code [~~August 31, 2019~~].

SECTION 10.  The heading to Section 548.5055, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.5055.  TEXAS EMISSIONS [~~EMISSION~~] REDUCTION PLAN FEE.

SECTION 11.  Sections 548.5055(b) and (c), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b)  The department shall remit fees collected under this section to the comptroller at the time and in the manner prescribed by the comptroller for deposit in the Texas emissions [~~emission~~] reduction plan fund.

(c)  This section expires on the last day of the state fiscal biennium during which the conservation commission publishes in the Texas Register the notice required by Section 382.037, Health and Safety Code [~~August 31, 2019~~].

SECTION 12.  Sections 8(a-2) and (b), Chapter 755 (S.B. 1731), Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, are repealed.

SECTION 13.  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a Texas emissions reduction plan grant awarded on or after the effective date of this Act. A grant awarded before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the award was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 14.  The change in law made by this Act to Section 151.0515, Tax Code, applies only to a surcharge collected on or after the effective date of this Act. A surcharge collected before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before that date, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 15.  This Act takes effect August 30, 2019.