By: Nevárez H.B. No. 1523

	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1	AN ACT
2	relating to the continuation of the regulation of land surveyors
3	and the transfer of the regulation to the Texas Board of
4	Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, following the
5	recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission; changing fees.
6	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
7	ARTICLE 1. TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND
8	SURVEYORS
9	SECTION 1.01. The heading to Chapter 1001, Occupations
10	Code, is amended to read as follows:
11	CHAPTER 1001. TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND
12	SURVEYORS
13	SECTION 1.02. Section 1001.002, Occupations Code, is
14	amended by amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivision (3) to
15	read as follows:
16	(1) "Board" means the Texas Board of Professional

- 17 Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- 18 (3) "Land surveyor," "licensed state land surveyor,"
- 19 "professional surveying," "registered professional land surveyor,"
- 20 and "state land surveying" have the meanings assigned by Section
- 21 1071.002.
- SECTION 1.03. Section 1001.004(e), Occupations Code, is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- (e) This chapter does not:

- 1 (1) prevent a person from identifying the person in
- 2 the name and trade of any engineers' labor organization with which
- 3 the person is affiliated;
- 4 (2) prohibit or otherwise restrict a person from
- 5 giving testimony or preparing an exhibit or document for the sole
- 6 purpose of being placed in evidence before an administrative or
- 7 judicial tribunal, subject to the board's disciplinary powers under
- 8 Subchapter J regarding negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in
- 9 the practice of engineering; or
- 10 (3) [repeal or amend a law affecting or regulating a
- 11 licensed state land surveyor; or
- 12 $\left[\frac{(4)}{2}\right]$ affect or prevent the practice of any other
- 13 legally recognized profession by a member of the profession who is
- 14 licensed by the state or under the state's authority.
- SECTION 1.04. Section 1001.005, Occupations Code, is
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.005. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The Texas Board
- 18 of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors is subject to Chapter
- 19 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in
- 20 existence as provided by that chapter, the board is abolished and
- 21 this chapter expires September 1, 2025.
- 22 SECTION 1.05. Section 1001.064, Occupations Code, is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.064. STATE LAND SURVEYORS. A licensed state land
- 25 surveyor is exempt from the requirements of this chapter regulating
- 26 the practice of engineering in performing the [a] state land
- 27 surveyor's duties.

- 1 SECTION 1.06. The heading to Subchapter C, Chapter 1001,
- 2 Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 SUBCHAPTER C. TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND
- 4 SURVEYORS
- 5 SECTION 1.07. Section 1001.101(a), Occupations Code, is
- 6 amended to read as follows:
- 7 (a) The Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
- 8 Surveyors consists of nine members appointed by the governor with
- 9 the advice and consent of the senate as follows:
- 10 (1) $\underline{\text{five}}$ [six] engineers; [and]
- 11 (2) one land surveyor; and
- 12 (3) three members who represent the public.
- SECTION 1.08. Subchapter C, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code,
- 14 is amended by adding Section 1001.1011 to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.1011. EX OFFICIO MEMBER. The commissioner of the
- 16 General Land Office or a licensed state land surveyor employee of
- 17 the General Land Office designated by the commissioner as director
- 18 of surveying shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the
- 19 board.
- 20 SECTION 1.09. Section 1001.102, Occupations Code, is
- 21 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to
- 22 read as follows:
- 23 (a) A person may not be a public member of the board if the
- 24 person or the person's spouse:
- 25 (1) is registered, certified, or licensed by a
- 26 regulatory agency in the field of engineering or land surveying;
- 27 (2) is employed by or participates in the management

- 1 of a business entity or other organization regulated by or
- 2 receiving money from the board;
- 3 (3) owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more
- 4 than a 10 percent interest in a business entity or other
- 5 organization regulated by or receiving money from the board; or
- 6 (4) uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible
- 7 goods, services, or money from the board other than compensation or
- 8 reimbursement authorized by law for board membership, attendance,
- 9 or expenses.
- 10 <u>(d)</u> A land surveyor member of the board:
- 11 <u>(1)</u> must be:
- 12 (A) a licensed state land surveyor actively
- 13 engaged in the practice of state land surveying for not less than
- 14 the five years preceding appointment; or
- 15 <u>(B) a registered professional land surveyor</u>
- 16 <u>actively engaged in the practice of professional surveying in this</u>
- 17 state for not less than the five years preceding appointment; and
- 18 (2) may not be licensed as an engineer.
- 19 SECTION 1.10. Section 1001.103(a-1), Occupations Code, is
- 20 amended to read as follows:
- 21 (a-1) A person may not be a member of the board and may not
- 22 be a board employee employed in a "bona fide executive,
- 23 administrative, or professional capacity," as that phrase is used
- 24 for purposes of establishing an exemption to the overtime
- 25 provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29
- 26 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), and its subsequent amendments, if:
- 27 (1) the person is an officer, employee, or paid

- 1 consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of engineering
- 2 or land surveying; or
- 3 (2) the person's spouse is an officer, manager, or paid
- 4 consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of engineering
- 5 or land surveying.
- 6 SECTION 1.11. Section 1001.105, Occupations Code, is
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 1001.105. PARTICIPATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS. (a) The
- 9 board by majority vote may limit the participation of public
- 10 members in evaluating license, registration, or certification
- 11 applications.
- 12 (b) This section does not apply to the evaluation of
- 13 license, registration, or certification applications at an
- 14 official meeting of the board.
- SECTION 1.12. Section 1001.107, Occupations Code, is
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- 17 Sec. 1001.107. PER DIEM. Each [A] board member, other than
- 18 the commissioner of the General Land Office, is entitled to receive
- 19 a per diem as set by the General Appropriations Act for each day
- 20 that the member engages in the business of the board.
- 21 SECTION 1.13. Section 1001.112(b), Occupations Code, is
- 22 amended to read as follows:
- 23 (b) The training program must provide the person with
- 24 information regarding:
- 25 (1) this chapter and Chapter 1071;
- 26 (2) the programs operated by the board;
- 27 (3) the role and functions of the board;

- 1 (4) the rules of the board, with an emphasis on the
- 2 rules that relate to disciplinary and investigatory authority;
- 3 (5) the current budget for the board;
- 4 (6) the results of the most recent formal audit of the
- 5 board;
- 6 (7) the requirements of:
- 7 (A) the open meetings law, Chapter 551,
- 8 Government Code;
- 9 (B) the public information law, Chapter 552,
- 10 Government Code;
- 11 (C) the administrative procedure law, Chapter
- 12 2001, Government Code; and
- 13 (D) other laws relating to public officials,
- 14 including conflict-of-interest laws; and
- 15 (8) any applicable ethics policies adopted by the
- 16 board or the Texas Ethics Commission.
- 17 SECTION 1.14. Section 1001.201, Occupations Code, is
- 18 amended to read as follows:
- 19 Sec. 1001.201. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The board
- 20 shall administer and enforce this chapter and Chapter 1071.
- (b) The board may spend money for any purpose the board
- 22 considers reasonably necessary for the proper performance of its
- 23 duties under this chapter and Chapter 1071.
- 24 SECTION 1.15. Section 1001.202, Occupations Code, is
- 25 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.202. RULES. The board may adopt and enforce any
- 27 rule or bylaw necessary to perform its duties, govern its

- 1 proceedings, and regulate the practice of engineering and land
- 2 surveying.
- 3 SECTION 1.16. Sections 1001.203(b) and (c), Occupations
- 4 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (a), the board may not
- 6 adopt rules restricting advertising or competitive bidding by a
- 7 person regulated by the board [license holder] except to prohibit
- 8 false, misleading, or deceptive practices.
- 9 (c) In its rules to prohibit false, misleading, or deceptive
- 10 practices by a person regulated by the board, the board may not
- 11 include a rule that:
- 12 (1) restricts the use of any medium for advertising;
- 13 (2) restricts the use of the person's [a license
- 14 holder's personal appearance or voice in an advertisement;
- 15 (3) relates to the size or duration of an
- 16 advertisement by the person [license holder]; or
- 17 (4) restricts the <u>person's</u> [license holder's]
- 18 advertisement under a trade name.
- 19 SECTION 1.17. Section 1001.204, Occupations Code, is
- 20 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.204. FEES. (a) The board shall establish [the
- 22 **following**] fees in amounts reasonable and necessary to cover the
- 23 costs of administering this chapter and Chapter 1071, including:
- 24 (1) license, registration, and certification fees
- 25 [fee];
- 26 (2) [annual and late] renewal fee [fees];
- 27 (3) reciprocal license fee;

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1 (4) duplicate license fee;
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- 2 (5) [engineer-in-training certificate fee;
- 3 [(6)] roster [of engineers] fee;
- 4 (6) $\left[\frac{(7)}{(7)}\right]$ examination fee;
- 5 [(8) registration fee for engineering firm; and
- 6 (7) $[\frac{(9)}{}]$ inactive status fee.
- 7 (b) Fee revenue may not exceed the amount reasonable and 8 necessary to administer this chapter and Chapter 1071.
- 9 (c) General revenue of the state may not be used to pay the 10 costs of administering this chapter and Chapter 1071 in an amount 11 that exceeds the amount of fees received under this chapter and
- 12 Chapter 1071.
- 13 SECTION 1.18. Section 1001.205, Occupations Code, is 14 amended to read as follows:
- 15 Sec. 1001.205. REDUCED FEES: ELDERLY, DISABLED, INACTIVE
- 16 STATUS. (a) For purposes of this section, a person is disabled if
- 17 the person has a mental or physical impairment that substantially
- 18 limits the ability of the person to earn a living as an engineer or
- 19 land surveyor, other than an impairment caused by a current
- 20 addiction to the use of alcohol or an illegal drug or controlled
- 21 substance.
- (b) The board by rule may adopt reduced license fees and
- 23 [annual] renewal fees for engineers and land surveyors who are:
- 24 (1) at least 65 years of age; or
- 25 (2) disabled and not actively engaged in the practice
- 26 of engineering or land surveying.
- 27 (c) A person entitled to reduced fees under Subsection

- 1 (b)(2) shall notify the board that the person has resumed the active
- 2 practice of engineering or land surveying not later than the 15th
- 3 day after the date the person resumes active practice.
- 4 SECTION 1.19. Section 1001.207, Occupations Code, is
- 5 amended to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 1001.207. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS. The board
- 7 may establish standards of conduct and ethics for engineers and
- 8 <u>land surveyors</u> in keeping with the purposes and intent of this
- 9 chapter and Chapter 1071 and to ensure strict compliance with and
- 10 enforcement of this chapter and Chapter 1071.
- 11 SECTION 1.20. The heading to Section 1001.208, Occupations
- 12 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 13 Sec. 1001.208. ROSTER OF ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS.
- 14 SECTION 1.21. Section 1001.209, Occupations Code, is
- 15 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.209. REGISTER OF APPLICANTS. The board shall
- 17 maintain a register of each application for a license or
- 18 registration under this chapter or Chapter 1071 [applications] that
- 19 shows:
- 20 (1) the name, age, and residence of each applicant;
- 21 (2) the date of the application;
- 22 (3) the applicant's place of business;
- 23 (4) the applicant's educational and other
- 24 qualifications;
- 25 (5) whether an examination was required;
- 26 (6) whether the applicant was issued or denied a
- 27 license or registration;

- 1 (7) the date of board action; and
- 2 (8) any other information the board considers
- 3 necessary.
- 4 SECTION 1.22. Section 1001.210, Occupations Code, is
- 5 amended to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 1001.210. CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR
- 7 ENGINEERS. (a) The board shall recognize, prepare, or administer
- 8 continuing education programs for engineers [its license holders].
- 9 An engineer [A license holder] must participate in the programs to
- 10 the extent required by the board to keep the engineer's [person's]
- 11 license.
- 12 (b) The board may not require an engineer [a license holder]
- 13 to obtain more than 15 hours of continuing education annually. The
- 14 board shall permit an engineer [a license holder] to certify at the
- 15 time the license is renewed that the engineer [license holder] has
- 16 complied with the board's continuing education requirements.
- 17 (c) The board shall permit an engineer [a license holder] to
- 18 receive continuing education credit for educational, technical,
- 19 ethical, or professional management activities related to the
- 20 practice of engineering, including:
- 21 (1) successfully completing or auditing a course
- 22 sponsored by an institution of higher education;
- 23 (2) successfully completing a course certified by a
- 24 professional or trade organization;
- 25 (3) attending a seminar, tutorial, short course,
- 26 correspondence course, videotaped course, or televised course;
- 27 (4) participating in an in-house course sponsored by a

- 1 corporation or other business entity;
- 2 (5) teaching a course described by Subdivisions
- 3(1)-(4);
- 4 (6) publishing an article, paper, or book on the
- 5 practice of engineering;
- 6 (7) making or attending a presentation at a meeting of
- 7 a technical or engineering management society or organization or
- 8 writing a paper presented at such a meeting;
- 9 (8) participating in the activities of a professional
- 10 society or association, including serving on a committee of the
- 11 organization; and
- 12 (9) engaging in self-directed study.
- 13 (d) An engineer [A license holder] may not receive more than
- 14 five continuing education credit hours annually for engaging in
- 15 self-directed study.
- SECTION 1.23. Section 1001.212, Occupations Code, is
- 17 amended to read as follows:
- 18 Sec. 1001.212. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION
- 19 RELATED TO [$\frac{\text{LICENSE}}{\text{ENSE}}$] APPLICATION. (a) A statement made by a person
- 20 providing a reference for an applicant and other pertinent
- 21 information compiled by or submitted to the board relating to an
- 22 applicant for <u>licensing</u>, <u>registration</u>, <u>or certification</u> [a
- 23 license] under this chapter or Chapter 1071 is privileged and
- 24 confidential.
- 25 (b) Information described by Subsection (a) may be used only
- 26 by the board or its employees or agents who are directly involved in
- 27 the application or licensing, registration, or certification

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- 1 process. The information is not subject to discovery, subpoena, or
- 2 other disclosure.
- 3 SECTION 1.24. Section 1001.213(a), Occupations Code, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 (a) The board may request and, if necessary, compel by
- 6 subpoena:
- 7 (1) the attendance of a witness for examination under
- 8 oath; and
- 9 (2) the production for inspection or copying of
- 10 records, documents, and other evidence relevant to the
- 11 investigation of an alleged violation of this chapter or Chapter
- 12 1071.
- SECTION 1.25. Subchapter E, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code,
- 14 is amended by adding Section 1001.216 to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.216. ADVISORY COMMITTEE. The board may appoint
- 16 <u>an advisory committee to provide advice and recommendations to the</u>
- 17 board on any matter relevant to the administration of this chapter
- 18 or Chapter 1071.
- 19 SECTION 1.26. Section 1001.251(a), Occupations Code, is
- 20 amended to read as follows:
- 21 (a) The board shall prepare information of consumer
- 22 interest describing:
- 23 <u>(1)</u> the regulatory functions of the board <u>under this</u>
- 24 chapter and Chapter 1071; and
- 25 (2) the procedures by which consumer complaints are
- 26 filed with and resolved by the board.
- SECTION 1.27. Sections 1001.252(a) and (d), Occupations

- 1 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 2 (a) The board shall adopt rules that permit the board to
- 3 receive and investigate a confidential complaint against a [license
- 4 holder or other] person who may have violated this chapter or
- 5 Chapter 1071. The board shall maintain the confidentiality of the
- 6 complaint during the investigation.
- 7 (d) The board shall consider any written grievance against a
- 8 [license holder or other] person filed with the board as a
- 9 complaint.
- 10 SECTION 1.28. Chapter 1001, Occupations Code, is amended by
- 11 adding Subchapter F-1 to read as follows:
- 12 SUBCHAPTER F-1. GENERAL LICENSE, REGISTRATION, AND CERTIFICATION
- 13 REQUIREMENT
- Sec. 1001.271. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "license"
- 15 means a license, certification, registration, or other
- 16 <u>authorization that is issued by the board under this chapter or</u>
- 17 Chapter 1071.
- 18 SECTION 1.29. Section 1001.3035, Occupations Code, is
- 19 transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code, as
- 20 added by this Act, and redesignated as Section 1001.272,
- 21 Occupations Code, to read as follows:
- 22 Sec. 1001.272 [1001.3035]. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD
- 23 INFORMATION REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSE ISSUANCE. (a) The board shall
- 24 require that an applicant for a license submit a complete and
- 25 legible set of fingerprints, on a form prescribed by the board, to
- 26 the board or to the Department of Public Safety for the purpose of
- 27 obtaining criminal history record information from the Department

- 1 of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- 2 (b) The board may not issue a license to a person who does
- 3 not comply with the requirement of Subsection (a).
- 4 (c) The board shall conduct a criminal history check of each
- 5 applicant for a license using information:
- 6 (1) provided by the individual under this section; and
- 7 (2) made available to the board by the Department of
- 8 Public Safety, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any other
- 9 criminal justice agency under Chapter 411, Government Code.
- 10 (d) The board may:
- 11 (1) enter into an agreement with the Department of
- 12 Public Safety to administer a criminal history check required under
- 13 this section; and
- 14 (2) authorize the Department of Public Safety to
- 15 collect from each applicant the costs incurred by the Department of
- 16 Public Safety in conducting the criminal history check.
- 17 SECTION 1.30. Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations
- 18 Code, as added by this Act, is amended by adding Section 1001.2721
- 19 to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.2721. EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT AND
- 21 ADMINISTRATION. Notwithstanding any other law, the board may
- 22 adopt, recognize, develop, or contract for an examination required
- 23 by this chapter or Chapter 1071, including the administration of
- 24 the examination.
- 25 SECTION 1.31. Section 1001.306, Occupations Code, is
- 26 transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code, as
- 27 added by this Act, redesignated as Section 1001.273, Occupations

- 1 Code, and amended to read as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1001.273 [1001.306]. EXAMINATION RESULTS. (a) Not
- 3 later than the 30th day after the date a person takes \underline{an} [\underline{a}
- 4 licensing examination under this chapter or Chapter 1071, the
- 5 board shall notify the person of the results of the examination.
- 6 (a-1) If the examination is graded or reviewed by a testing
- 7 service:
- 8 (1) the board shall notify the person of the results of
- 9 the examination not later than the 14th day after the date the board
- 10 receives the results from the testing service; and
- 11 (2) if notice of the examination results will be
- 12 delayed for longer than 90 days after the examination date, the
- 13 board shall notify the person of the reason for the delay before the
- 14 90th day.
- 15 (b) The board may require a testing service to notify a
- 16 person of the results of the person's examination.
- 17 (c) If requested in writing by a person who fails an $[\frac{a}{a}]$
- 18 licensing examination administered under this chapter or Chapter
- 19 1071, the board shall furnish the person with an analysis of the
- 20 person's performance on the examination.
- 21 (d) Examination results reported under this section must
- 22 include a numerical score and an indication of whether the person
- 23 passed or failed the examination.
- 24 SECTION 1.32. Sections 1001.307 and 1001.352, Occupations
- 25 Code, are transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations
- 26 Code, as added by this Act, and redesignated as Sections 1001.274
- 27 and 1001.275, Occupations Code, respectively, to read as follows:

- 1 Sec. 1001.274 [1001.307]. REEXAMINATION. The board may
- 2 permit reexamination of an applicant on payment of an appropriate
- 3 reexamination fee in an amount set by the board.
- 4 Sec. 1001.275 [1001.352]. NOTICE OF LICENSE EXPIRATION.
- 5 Not later than the 30th day before the date a person's license is
- 6 scheduled to expire, the board shall send written notice of the
- 7 impending expiration to the person at the person's last known
- 8 address according to the records of the board.
- 9 SECTION 1.33. Sections 1001.353 and 1001.3535, Occupations
- 10 Code, are transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations
- 11 Code, as added by this Act, redesignated as Sections 1001.276 and
- 12 1001.277, Occupations Code, respectively, and amended to read as
- 13 follows:
- 14 Sec. 1001.276 [1001.353]. PROCEDURE FOR RENEWAL. (a) A
- 15 person who is otherwise eligible to renew a license may renew an
- 16 unexpired license by paying the required [annual] renewal fee to
- 17 the board before the expiration date of the license. A person whose
- 18 license has expired may not engage in activities that require a
- 19 license until the license has been renewed.
- 20 (b) A person whose license has been expired for 90 days or
- 21 less may renew the license by paying to the board the required
- 22 [annual] renewal fee and a late renewal fee.
- (c) A person whose license has been expired for more than 90
- 24 days but less than two years may renew the license by paying to the
- 25 board the required [annual] renewal fee and a late renewal fee for
- 26 each delinquent year or part of a year.
- 27 (d) A person whose license has been expired for two years or

- 1 more may not renew the license. The person may obtain a new license
- 2 by complying with the requirements and procedures, including the
- 3 examination requirements, for obtaining an original license.
- 4 Sec. 1001.277 [1001.3535]. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD
- 5 INFORMATION REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL. (a) An applicant
- 6 renewing a license [issued under this chapter] shall submit a
- 7 complete and legible set of fingerprints for purposes of performing
- 8 a criminal history check of the applicant as provided by Section
- 9 1001.272 [1001.3035].
- 10 (b) The board may not renew the license of a person who does
- 11 not comply with the requirement of Subsection (a).
- 12 (c) A license holder is not required to submit fingerprints
- 13 under this section for the renewal of the license if the license
- 14 holder has previously submitted fingerprints under:
- 15 (1) Section 1001.272 [1001.3035] for the initial
- 16 issuance of the license; or
- 17 (2) this section as part of a prior license renewal.
- 18 SECTION 1.34. Section 1001.354, Occupations Code, is
- 19 transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code, as
- 20 added by this Act, and redesignated as Section 1001.278,
- 21 Occupations Code, to read as follows:
- 22 Sec. 1001.278 [1001.354]. RENEWAL OF EXPIRED LICENSE BY
- 23 OUT-OF-STATE PRACTITIONER. (a) A person who was licensed in this
- 24 state, moved to another state, and is currently licensed and has
- 25 been in practice in the other state for the two years preceding the
- 26 date of application may obtain a new license without reexamination.
- (b) The person must pay to the board a fee that is equal to

- 1 two times the normally required renewal fee for the license.
- 2 SECTION 1.35. Section 1001.355, Occupations Code, is
- 3 transferred to Subchapter F-1, Chapter 1001, Occupations Code, as
- 4 added by this Act, redesignated as Section 1001.279, Occupations
- 5 Code, and amended to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 1001.279 [1001.355]. INACTIVE STATUS. (a) An
- 7 engineer or land surveyor may request inactive status at any time.
- 8 An engineer or land surveyor [A license holder] on inactive status
- 9 may not practice engineering or land surveying, as applicable.
- 10 (b) An engineer or land surveyor [A license holder] on
- 11 inactive status must pay <u>a</u> [an annual] fee <u>in an amount and at times</u>
- 12 prescribed [set] by the board.
- 13 (c) <u>An engineer or land surveyor</u> [A license holder] on
- 14 inactive status is not required to:
- 15 (1) comply with the continuing education requirements
- 16 adopted by the board under Section 1001.210 or 1071.305, as
- 17 applicable; or
- 18 (2) take an examination for reinstatement to active
- 19 status.
- 20 (d) To return to active status, an engineer or land surveyor
- 21 [a license holder] on inactive status must:
- 22 (1) file with the board a written notice requesting
- 23 reinstatement to active status;
- (2) pay the fee for the [annual] renewal of the
- 25 license; and
- 26 (3) provide evidence satisfactory to the board that
- 27 the person has complied with the continuing education requirements

- 1 adopted by the board under Section 1001.210 or 1071.305, as
- 2 applicable.
- 3 SECTION 1.36. The heading to Subchapter G, Chapter 1001,
- 4 Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 SUBCHAPTER G. ENGINEERING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS
- 6 SECTION 1.37. Section 1001.305, Occupations Code, is
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 1001.305. WAIVER OF EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT. The
- 9 board by rule may waive all or part of the examination requirement
- 10 for an applicant for the issuance or reissuance of a license <u>under</u>
- 11 this chapter. The board may not waive the requirement unless the
- 12 board first determines that:
- 13 (1) the applicant possesses sufficient qualifications
- 14 to justify the waiver; and
- 15 (2) issuing or reissuing the license to the applicant
- 16 does not pose a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.
- 17 SECTION 1.38. Section 1001.311, Occupations Code, is
- 18 amended to read as follows:
- 19 Sec. 1001.311. APPLICATION BY NONRESIDENT. (a) A person
- 20 who holds a license or certificate of registration issued by
- 21 another state or a foreign country may apply <u>under this chapter</u> for
- 22 a license in this state.
- 23 (b) The board may waive any prerequisite to obtaining a
- 24 license under this chapter for an applicant after reviewing the
- 25 applicant's credentials and determining that the applicant holds a
- 26 license issued by another jurisdiction that has licensing
- 27 requirements substantially equivalent to those of this state.

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- 1 SECTION 1.39. Section 1001.312, Occupations Code, is
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 Sec. 1001.312. REPLACEMENT LICENSE. The board, subject to
- 4 board rules, may issue a new license to replace a license issued
- 5 under this chapter that is lost, destroyed, or mutilated.
- 6 SECTION 1.40. The heading to Subchapter H, Chapter 1001,
- 7 Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 8 SUBCHAPTER H. ENGINEERING LICENSE RENEWAL
- 9 SECTION 1.41. Section 1001.452, Occupations Code, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 Sec. 1001.452. GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION. A person
- 12 is subject to disciplinary action under Section 1001.451 for:
- 13 (1) a violation of this chapter or a board rule adopted
- 14 under this chapter;
- 15 (2) fraud or deceit in obtaining a license;
- 16 (3) a documented instance of retaliation by an
- 17 applicant against an individual who has served as a reference for
- 18 that applicant;
- 19 (4) gross negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in
- 20 the practice of engineering; or
- 21 (5) a failure to timely provide plans or
- 22 specifications to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
- 23 as required by Chapter 469, Government Code [Article 9102, Revised
- 24 Statutes].
- 25 SECTION 1.42. Section 1001.501, Occupations Code, is
- 26 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.501. IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY. The

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- 1 board may impose an administrative penalty on a person who violates
- 2 this chapter or Chapter 1071 or a rule adopted or order issued under
- 3 this chapter or Chapter 1071.
- 4 SECTION 1.43. Section 1001.502, Occupations Code, is
- 5 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 (a) The amount of an administrative penalty may not exceed:
- 8 (1) \$5,000 for each violation of this chapter or a rule
- 9 adopted or order issued under this chapter; and
- 10 (2) \$1,500 for each violation of Chapter 1071 or a rule
- 11 <u>adopted or order issued under Chapter 1071</u>.
- 12 (a-1) Each day a violation continues or occurs is a separate
- 13 violation for purposes of imposing a penalty.
- SECTION 1.44. Sections 1001.551(a) and (d), Occupations
- 15 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 16 (a) In addition to any other action authorized by law, the
- 17 board may bring an action in the board's name to enjoin a person
- 18 from violating this chapter or Chapter 1071 or a board rule adopted
- 19 under this chapter or Chapter 1071.
- 20 (d) In an action for an injunction under this section, the
- 21 defendant may assert and prove as a complete defense to the action
- 22 that the board deprived the defendant of a license, certificate, or
- 23 <u>registration</u> by a board action or proceeding that was:
- 24 (1) arbitrary or capricious;
- 25 (2) contrary to law; or
- 26 (3) conducted without due process of law.
- 27 SECTION 1.45. Section 1001.5511, Occupations Code, is

- 1 amended to read as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1001.5511. CEASE AND DESIST ORDER. If it appears to
- 3 the board that a person who is not licensed, certified, or
- 4 registered under this chapter or Chapter 1071 is violating this
- 5 chapter or Chapter 1071, a rule adopted under this chapter or
- 6 Chapter 1071, or another state statute or rule relating to the
- 7 practice of engineering or land surveying, the board, after notice
- 8 and opportunity for a hearing, may issue a cease and desist order
- 9 prohibiting the person from engaging in the activity.
- 10 SECTION 1.46. Section 1001.552(a), Occupations Code, is
- 11 amended to read as follows:
- 12 (a) A person commits an offense if the person:
- 13 (1) engages in the practice of engineering without
- 14 being licensed or exempted from the licensing requirement under
- 15 this chapter;
- 16 (2) violates this chapter with respect to the
- 17 regulation of engineering;
- 18 (3) presents or attempts to use as the person's own the
- 19 engineering license or seal of another; or
- 20 (4) gives false evidence of any kind to the board or a
- 21 board member in obtaining an engineering [a] license.
- 22 SECTION 1.47. Section 1001.553, Occupations Code, is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.553. REPORT OF VIOLATION. A public official
- 25 shall report a violation of this chapter or Chapter 1071 to the
- 26 proper authorities.
- 27 SECTION 1.48. Section 1001.554, Occupations Code, is

- 1 amended to read as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1001.554. PRESENTATION OF COMPLAINTS BY BOARD;
- 3 ASSISTANCE AT TRIAL. (a) A member of the board may present to a
- 4 prosecuting officer a complaint relating to a violation of this
- 5 chapter or Chapter 1071.
- 6 (b) The board through its members, officers, counsel, and
- 7 agents and subject to the control of the prosecuting officer may
- 8 assist in the trial of a case involving an alleged violation of this
- 9 chapter or Chapter 1071.
- SECTION 1.49. Section 1001.555(a), Occupations Code, is
- 11 amended to read as follows:
- 12 (a) The attorney general shall:
- 13 (1) act as legal advisor of the board;
- 14 (2) provide legal assistance to the board as necessary
- 15 to enforce this chapter or Chapter 1071 and make those laws [it]
- 16 effective; and
- 17 (3) represent the board in an action brought to
- 18 enforce this chapter or Chapter 1071.
- 19 SECTION 1.50. Section 1001.556, Occupations Code, is
- 20 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 1001.556. APPEAL BOND. The board is not required to
- 22 give an appeal bond in a cause arising under this chapter or Chapter
- 23 <u>1071</u>.
- SECTION 1.51. Section 1071.002(1), Occupations Code, is
- 25 amended to read as follows:
- 26 (1) "Board" means the Texas Board of Professional
- 27 Engineers and Land Surveyors [Surveying].

- 1 SECTION 1.52. The heading to Section 1071.301, Occupations
- 2 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 Sec. 1071.301. LICENSE TERM AND [ANNUAL] RENEWAL
- 4 [REQUIRED].
- 5 SECTION 1.53. Section 1071.301, Occupations Code, is
- 6 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and
- 7 (a-2) to read as follows:
- 8 (a) The board by rule shall provide:
- 9 (1) that each certificate of registration or license
- 10 under this chapter is valid for a term of one year or two years; and
- 11 (2) for the renewal of the certificate or license.
- 12 (a-1) The board by rule may adopt a system under which
- 13 certificates of registration and licenses expire on various dates
- 14 during the year.
- 15 (a-2) For the year in which the certificate or license
- 16 expiration date is changed, the board shall prorate certificate and
- 17 license fees on a monthly basis so that each certificate or license
- 18 holder pays only that portion of the certificate or license fee that
- 19 is allocable to the number of months during which the certificate or
- 20 license is valid. On renewal of the certificate or license on the
- 21 new expiration date, the total certificate or license renewal fee
- 22 is payable.
- SECTION 1.54. Section 1071.352(a-2), Occupations Code, is
- 24 amended to read as follows:
- 25 (a-2) The board may refuse to issue or renew and may suspend
- 26 or revoke the registration of a business entity and may impose an
- 27 administrative penalty under Subchapter K, Chapter 1001, against

- 1 the owner of a business entity for a violation of this chapter by an
- 2 employee, agent, or other representative of the entity, including a
- 3 registered professional land surveyor employed by the entity.
- 4 SECTION 1.55. Section 1071.401(a), Occupations Code, is
- 5 amended to read as follows:
- 6 (a) The board shall revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a
- 7 certificate of registration or license, place on probation a person
- 8 whose certificate or license has been suspended, or reprimand a
- 9 registration holder or license holder for:
- 10 (1) fraud or deceit in obtaining a certificate or
- 11 license under this chapter;
- 12 (2) gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in
- 13 the practice of surveying as a land surveyor; or
- 14 (3) a violation of this chapter or a board rule adopted
- 15 under this chapter.
- 16 SECTION 1.56. Sections 1071.4035(a) and (b), Occupations
- 17 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 18 (a) The board by rule shall establish guidelines for an
- 19 informal settlement conference related to a complaint filed with
- 20 the board regarding conduct regulated under this chapter.
- 21 (b) Subject to Subsection (c), the board may order a person
- 22 licensed or registered under this chapter to pay restitution to a
- 23 consumer as provided in an agreement resulting from an informal
- 24 settlement conference instead of or in addition to assessing an
- 25 administrative penalty under <u>Subchapter K, Chapter 1001</u> [this
- 26 chapter].
- 27 SECTION 1.57. The following provisions of the Occupations

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1
   Code are repealed:
                    Section 1071.003;
 2
               (1)
                    Subchapter B, Chapter 1071;
 3
               (2)
               (3)
                    Subchapter C, Chapter 1071;
 5
               (4)
                    Subchapter D, Chapter 1071;
               (5)
                    Subchapter E, Chapter 1071;
 6
                    Section 1071.255(c);
 7
               (6)
                    Section 1071.257;
 8
               (7)
 9
               (8)
                    Section 1071.258;
               (9) Section 1071.263;
10
               (10) Section 1071.302;
11
               (11) Section 1071.303;
12
                     Sections 1071.402(b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and
13
               (12)
14
    (q);
15
               (13)
                     Subchapter J, Chapter 1071;
16
               (14)
                     Section 1071.501;
                     Section 1071.502; and
17
               (15)
                     Subchapter L, Chapter 1071.
18
                (16)
                    ARTICLE 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS
19
20
          SECTION 2.01. Section 150.003(a), Civil Practice
                                                                    and
21
    Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:
22
              This section applies only to a licensed or registered
23
    professional who provides architectural or engineering services if
24
    the services:
25
               (1) are
                         authorized,
                                               appropriate
                                         as
                                                             for
                                                                    the
26
   professional, in:
                          Chapter 1001, Occupations Code;
27
                     (A)
```

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1 (B) Chapter 1051, Occupations Code;
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- 2 (C) 22 T.A.C. Part 6 (Texas Board of
- 3 Professional Engineers <u>and Land Surveyors</u>), Chapter 137
- 4 (Compliance and Professionalism); and
- 5 (D) 22 T.A.C. Part 1 (Texas Board of
- 6 Architectural Examiners), Chapter 1 (Architects), Subchapter H
- 7 (Professional Conduct);
- 8 (2) subject to Subsection (d), are provided
- 9 voluntarily and without compensation or the expectation of
- 10 compensation;
- 11 (3) are in response to and provided during the
- 12 duration of a proclaimed state of emergency under Section 433.001,
- 13 Government Code, or a declared state of disaster under Section
- 14 418.014, Government Code;
- 15 (4) are provided at the request or with the approval of
- 16 a federal, state, or local public official acting in an official
- 17 capacity in response to the proclaimed state of emergency or
- 18 declared disaster, including a law enforcement official, public
- 19 safety official, or building inspection official; and
- 20 (5) are related to a structure, building, roadway,
- 21 piping, or other system, either publicly or privately owned.
- SECTION 2.02. Section 411.122(d), Government Code, is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- 24 (d) The following state agencies are subject to this
- 25 section:
- 26 (1) Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification
- 27 Board;

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Texas Board of Architectural Examiners;
 1
                (2)
 2
                     Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
                (3)
 3
                (4)
                     State Board of Dental Examiners;
                     Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
 4
                (5)
 5
    Surveyors;
 6
                (6)
                     Texas Funeral Service Commission;
 7
                (7)
                     Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists;
 8
                (8)
                      [Department of State] Health and Human Services
    Commission, except as provided by Section 411.110, and agencies
 9
    attached to the commission [department], including:
10
                      (A) Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage
11
    and Family Therapists;
12
                      (B) Texas
                                   State
                                            Board
                                                     of
13
                                                           Examiners
                                                                        of
    Professional Counselors; and
14
15
                      (C) Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners;
                (9) [Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying;
16
17
                [\frac{10}{10}] Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation,
    except as provided by Section 411.093;
18
                (10) [<del>(11)</del>] Texas
19
                                      Commission
                                                      on
                                                            Environmental
20
    Quality;
21
                (11)
                      \left[\frac{(12)}{(12)}\right] Texas Board of Occupational
                                                                  Therapy
    Examiners;
22
                (12) [(13)] Texas Optometry Board;
23
24
                (13)
                      [<del>(14)</del>] Texas State Board of Pharmacy;
25
                (14)
                      [<del>(15)</del>] Texas
                                                of
                                                      Physical
                                       Board
                                                                  Therapy
26
    Examiners;
                     [(16)] Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners;
27
                (15)
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Board of Podiatric Medical
 1
                (16)
                     (17) Texas State
 2
    Examiners;
 3
                [\frac{(18)}{(18)}]
                        Texas
                                  State
                                           Board
                                                    of
                                                          Examiners
                                                                       of
    Psychologists;
 4
 5
                (17) [<del>(19)</del>] Texas Real Estate Commission;
                (18) [(20)] Texas Department of Transportation;
 6
 7
                (19) [\frac{(21)}{}] State
                                      Board of
                                                    Veterinary
8
    Examiners:
 9
                (20) [<del>(22)</del>]
                              Texas Department of Housing and Community
    Affairs;
10
                (21) [<del>(23)</del>] secretary of state;
11
12
                (22) \left[\frac{(24)}{}\right] state fire marshal;
                (23) [<del>(25)</del>] Texas Education Agency;
13
14
                (24) [(26)] Department of Agriculture; and
15
                (25) [(27)] Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.
          SECTION 2.03. Section 469.104, Government Code, is amended
16
17
    to read as follows:
          Sec. 469.104.
                          FAILURE TO SUBMIT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.
18
    The commission shall report to the Texas Board of Architectural
19
    Examiners, the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
20
    Surveyors, or another appropriate licensing authority the failure
21
    of any architect, interior designer, landscape architect, or
22
23
    engineer to submit or resubmit in a timely manner plans and
24
    specifications to the department as required by this subchapter.
          SECTION 2.04.
                          Section 472.001, Government Code, is amended
25
26
   to read as follows:
          Sec. 472.001.
                          APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER.
27
                                                           This
                                                                  chapter
```

```
2
                (1) the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy;
 3
                     the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
 4
    Surveyors; and
 5
                (3) the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners.
 6
          SECTION 2.05. Section 472.102(c), Government Code,
                                                                      is
 7
    amended to read as follows:
              The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy shall
8
    annually remit $703,344 to the general revenue fund, the Texas
 9
    Board of Professional Engineers <u>and Land Surveyors</u> shall annually
10
    remit $373,900 to the general revenue fund, and the Texas Board of
11
    Architectural Examiners shall annually remit $510,000 to the
12
13
    general revenue fund.
          SECTION 2.06. Section 2054.352(a), Government Code,
14
15
    amended to read as follows:
          (a) The following licensing entities shall participate in
16
17
    the system established under Section 2054.353:
                (1) Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
18
19
                (2)
                     Judicial Branch Certification Commission;
                     State Board of Dental Examiners;
20
                (3)
21
                (4) Texas Funeral Service Commission;
                     [Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying;
22
                (5)
23
                [<del>(6)</del>] Texas Medical Board;
24
               (6) [<del>(7)</del>] Texas Board of Nursing;
25
               (7) [<del>(8)</del>] Texas Optometry Board;
26
                (8) [<del>(9)</del>] Department of Agriculture, for licenses
    issued under Chapter 1951, Occupations Code;
27
```

1

applies to:

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                 (9) [<del>(10)</del>] Texas State Board of Pharmacy;
 1
 2
                 (10) [\frac{(11)}{(11)}] Executive Council of Physical Therapy and
 3
    Occupational Therapy Examiners;
 4
                 (11) [(12)] Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners;
 5
                 (12) [<del>(13) Texas State Board of Podiatric Medical</del>
 6
    Examiners;
 7
                 [\frac{(14)}{(14)}]
                                    State Board
                                                        of
                                                              Examiners
                         Texas
                                                                             of
 8
    Psychologists;
 9
                 (13) [<del>(15)</del>] State Board of
                                                        Veterinary Medical
10
    Examiners;
                 (14) [<del>(16)</del>] Texas Real Estate Commission;
11
                 (15) [<del>(17)</del>] Texas
12
                                          Appraiser
                                                            Licensing
                                                                            and
    Certification Board;
13
14
                 (16) [<del>(18)</del>] Texas Department
                                                        of
                                                              Licensing
                                                                            and
15
   Regulation;
16
                 (17) [<del>(19)</del>] Texas State Board of Public Accountancy;
17
                 (18) [<del>(20)</del>] State Board for Educator Certification;
                 (19) [\frac{(21)}{}] Texas Board of Professional Engineers and
18
19
    Land Surveyors;
                 (20) [(22) Department of State] Health and Human
20
    Services <a href="Commission">Commission</a>;
21
22
                 (21) [<del>(23)</del>] Texas Board of Architectural Examiners;
                 (22) [\frac{(24)}{}] Texas Racing Commission;
23
24
                 (23) [\frac{(25)}{}] Texas Commission on Law Enforcement; and
25
                 (24) [<del>(26)</del>] Texas Private Security Board.
           SECTION 2.07. Section 2166.202(b), Government Code,
26
```

amended to read as follows:

27

- 1 (b) The commission, in consultation with the Texas Board of
- 2 Architectural Examiners and the Texas Board of Professional
- 3 Engineers and Land Surveyors, shall adopt by rule criteria to
- 4 evaluate the competence and qualifications of a prospective private
- 5 design professional.
- 6 SECTION 2.08. Section 361.901(6), Health and Safety Code,
- 7 is amended to read as follows:
- 8 (6) "Licensed professional engineer" means a person
- 9 licensed as an engineer by the Texas Board of Professional
- 10 Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- SECTION 2.09. Section 366.071(c), Health and Safety Code,
- 12 is amended to read as follows:
- 13 (c) A person who conducts preconstruction site evaluations,
- 14 including visiting a site and performing a soil analysis, a site
- 15 survey, or other activities necessary to determine the suitability
- 16 of a site for an on-site sewage disposal system must hold a license
- 17 issued by the commission under Chapter 37, Water Code, unless the
- 18 person is licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and
- 19 Land Surveyors as an engineer.
- SECTION 2.10. Sections 2210.2515(c) and (d), Insurance
- 21 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- (c) A person may apply to the association on a form
- 23 prescribed by the department for a certificate of compliance for a
- 24 completed improvement. The association shall issue a certificate
- 25 of compliance for a completed improvement if a professional
- 26 engineer licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and
- 27 Land Surveyors:

- 1 (1) has designed the improvement, has affixed the
- 2 engineer's seal on the design, and submits to the association on a
- 3 form prescribed by the department an affirmation of compliance with
- 4 the applicable building code under the plan of operation; or
- 5 (2) completes a sealed post-construction evaluation
- 6 report that confirms compliance with the applicable building code
- 7 under the plan of operation.
- 8 (d) A person may apply to the department on a form
- 9 prescribed by the department for a certificate of compliance for an
- 10 ongoing improvement. Except as provided by Subsection (e), the
- 11 department shall issue a certificate of compliance for an ongoing
- 12 improvement if a qualified inspector under Section 2210.254
- 13 inspects the ongoing improvement in accordance with commissioner
- 14 rule and affirms that the improvement:
- 15 (1) conforms to a design of the improvement that has a
- 16 seal affixed by a professional engineer licensed by the Texas Board
- 17 of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and complies with the
- 18 applicable building code under the plan of operation; or
- 19 (2) complies with the applicable building code under
- 20 the plan of operation.
- 21 SECTION 2.11. Section 89.023(a), Natural Resources Code, is
- 22 amended to read as follows:
- 23 (a) The commission may grant an extension of the deadline
- 24 for plugging an inactive well if the operator maintains a current
- 25 organization report with the commission as required by Section
- 26 91.142 and if, on or before the date of renewal of the operator's
- 27 organization report as required by that section, the operator files

```
1
  with the commission an application for an extension that includes:
                   an affirmation that complies with Section 89.029;
2
               (1)
3
                   a statement that the operator has, and on request
  will provide, evidence of a good faith claim to a continuing right
4
5
   to operate the well; and
              (3)
                   at least one of the following:
6
7
                         documentation that since the preceding date
8
   that the operator's organization report was required to be renewed
   the operator has plugged, or restored to active operation as
```

an abeyance of plugging report on a form 13 14 approved by the commission that:

defined by commission rule, a number of inactive wells equal to or

greater than 10 percent of the number of inactive wells operated by

- 15 (i) is in the form of a certification signed by a person licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers 16 17 and Land Surveyors as an engineer or by the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists; 18
- (ii) includes: 19

the operator on that date;

9

10

11

12

- 20 (a) an affirmation by the licensed person that the well has: 21
- (1)a reasonable expectation of 22 23 economic value in excess of the cost of plugging the well for the 24 duration of the period covered by the report, based on the cost calculation for plugging an inactive well; and 25
- 26 (2) a reasonable expectation of
- 27 being restored to a beneficial use that will prevent waste of oil or

- 1 gas resources that otherwise would not be produced if the well were
- 2 plugged; and
- 3 (b) appropriate documentation
- 4 demonstrating the basis for the affirmation of the well's future
- 5 utility; and
- 6 (iii) specifies the field and the covered
- 7 wells within that field in a format prescribed by the commission;
- 8 (C) a statement that the well is part of an
- 9 enhanced oil recovery project;
- 10 (D) if the operator of the well is not currently
- 11 otherwise required by commission rule or order to conduct a fluid
- 12 level or hydraulic pressure test of the well, documentation of the
- 13 results of a successful fluid level or hydraulic pressure test of
- 14 the well conducted in accordance with the commission's rules in
- 15 effect at the time the test is conducted;
- 16 (E) a supplemental bond, letter of credit, or
- 17 cash deposit sufficient for each well specified in the application
- 18 that:
- (i) complies with the requirements of
- 20 Chapter 91; and
- 21 (ii) is of an amount at least equal to the
- 22 cost calculation for plugging an inactive well for each well
- 23 specified in the application;
- 24 (F) documentation of the deposit with the
- 25 commission each time the operator files an application of an amount
- 26 of escrow funds as prescribed by commission rule that equal at least
- 27 10 percent of the total cost calculation for plugging an inactive

```
1
   well for each well specified in the application; or
2
                    (G)
                         if the operator is a publicly traded entity:
 3
                          (i) the following documents:
4
                                   a copy of the operator's federal
                               (a)
5
   documents filed to comply with Financial Accounting Standards Board
   Statement No. 143, Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations;
6
7
   and
                                       original, executed Uniform
8
                               (b)
                                    an
   Commercial Code Form 1 Financing Statement, filed with the
10
   secretary of state, that:
11
                                    (1)
                                         names the operator as the
   "debtor" and the Railroad Commission of Texas as the "secured
12
   creditor"; and
13
14
                                    (2)
                                         specifies the funds covered
15
   by the documents described by Sub-subparagraph (a) in the amount of
   the cost calculation for plugging an inactive well for each well
16
17
   specified in the application; or
                          (ii) a blanket bond in the amount of the
18
   lesser of:
19
20
                               (a)
                                    the cost calculation for plugging
   any inactive wells; or
21
                               (b)
                                    $2 million.
22
23
          SECTION 2.12.
                         Section 1002.004(j), Occupations Code,
```

and Land Surveyors by rule, memorandum of understanding, or other

appropriate procedure or document shall jointly resolve

(j) The board and the Texas Board of Professional Engineers

24

25

26

27

amended to read as follows:

- 1 conflict between this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter
- 2 and Chapter 1001 or a rule adopted under that chapter.
- 3 SECTION 2.13. Sections 1051.607(b), (g), and (h),
- 4 Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 (b) An engineer may not engage or offer to engage in the
- 6 practice of architecture unless:
- 7 (1) the engineer is listed under Subsection (a); and
- 8 (2) the engineer is in good standing with the Texas
- 9 Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- 10 (g) The board and the Texas Board of Professional Engineers
- 11 and Land Surveyors shall pay equally the costs of a contested case.
- 12 (h) The Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
- 13 Surveyors has exclusive regulatory oversight over an engineer
- 14 listed under Subsection (a).
- SECTION 2.14. Section 223.151, Transportation Code, is
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- 17 Sec. 223.151. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter:
- 18 (1) applies to services of a technical expert,
- 19 including an archeologist, biologist, geologist, or historian, to
- 20 conduct an environmental or cultural assessment required by state
- 21 or federal law for a transportation project under the authority or
- 22 jurisdiction of the department; and
- 23 (2) does not apply to services defined as engineering
- 24 by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
- 25 under Chapter 1001, Occupations Code.
- SECTION 2.15. Section 26.3573(u), Water Code, is amended to
- 27 read as follows:

- 1 (u) The petroleum storage tank remediation account may not
- 2 be used to pay for a site remediation that involves the installation
- 3 or construction of on-site equipment, structures, or systems used
- 4 in the extraction or management of wastes, except for soil
- 5 excavation and landfill disposal or well sampling and monitoring,
- 6 unless:
- 7 (1) the plans and specifications for the equipment,
- 8 structures, or systems are sealed by an engineer licensed by the
- 9 Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors; and
- 10 (2) the equipment, structures, or systems are
- 11 constructed under the supervision of an engineer licensed by the
- 12 Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- 13 SECTION 2.16. Sections 26.364(b), (c), and (e), Water Code,
- 14 are amended to read as follows:
- 15 (b) The commission, on the request of an engineer licensed
- 16 by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors,
- 17 shall register the engineer in the program.
- 18 (c) An engineer registered in the program may contract to
- 19 perform corrective action under this subchapter unless the Texas
- 20 Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors determines the
- 21 engineer is not qualified to perform a corrective action.
- (e) The commission may not adopt minimum qualifications for
- 23 an engineer licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers
- 24 and Land Surveyors to contract with an eligible owner or operator to
- 25 perform a corrective action under this subchapter.
- 26 SECTION 2.17. Sections 26.366(b), (c), and (e), Water Code,
- 27 are amended to read as follows:

- 1 (b) The commission, on the request of an engineer licensed
- 2 by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors,
- 3 shall license the engineer in the program.
- 4 (c) An engineer licensed in the program may supervise a
- 5 corrective action under this subchapter unless the Texas Board of
- 6 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors determines the engineer
- 7 is not qualified to supervise a corrective action.
- 8 (e) The commission may not adopt minimum qualifications for
- 9 an engineer licensed by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers
- 10 <u>and Land Surveyors</u> to supervise a corrective action under this
- 11 subchapter.
- 12 ARTICLE 3. TRANSITIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATE
- 13 SECTION 3.01. (a) The Texas Board of Professional Land
- 14 Surveying is abolished but continues in existence until September
- 15 1, 2020, for the sole purpose of transferring obligations,
- 16 property, rights, powers, and duties to the Texas Board of
- 17 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors as created by this Act.
- 18 The Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
- 19 assumes all of the obligations, property, rights, powers, and
- 20 duties of the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying as they
- 21 exist immediately before the effective date of this Act. All
- 22 unexpended funds appropriated to the Texas Board of Professional
- 23 Land Surveying are transferred to the Texas Board of Professional
- 24 Engineers and Land Surveyors.
- 25 (b) The Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
- 26 Surveyors and the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying shall,
- 27 in consultation with appropriate state entities, ensure that the

- 1 transfer of the obligations, property, rights, powers, and duties
- 2 of the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying to the Texas Board
- 3 of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors is completed not later
- 4 than September 1, 2020.
- 5 (c) All rules of the Texas Board of Professional Land 6 Surveying are continued in effect as rules of the Texas Board of 7 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors until superseded by a
- 8 rule of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land
- 9 Surveyors. A certificate, license, registration, or other
- 10 authorization issued by the Texas Board of Professional Land
- 11 Surveying is continued in effect as provided by the law in effect
- 12 immediately before the effective date of this Act. An application
- 13 for a certificate, license, registration, or other authorization
- 14 pending on the effective date of this Act is continued without
- 15 change in status after the effective date of this Act. A complaint,
- 16 investigation, contested case, or other proceeding pending on the
- 17 effective date of this Act is continued without change in status
- 18 after the effective date of this Act.
- 19 SECTION 3.02. The change in law made by this Act to Section
- 20 1001.101, Occupations Code, does not affect the entitlement of a
- 21 member serving on the Texas Board of Professional Engineers
- 22 immediately before the effective date of this Act to continue to
- 23 serve for the remainder of the member's term. As the terms of board
- 24 members expire, the governor shall appoint or reappoint members to
- 25 the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors who
- 26 have the qualifications required for members under Sections
- 27 1001.101 and 1001.102, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

- 1 SECTION 3.03. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of
- 2 this section, Section 1001.112, Occupations Code, as amended by
- 3 this Act, applies to a member of the Texas Board of Professional
- 4 Engineers and Land Surveyors appointed before, on, or after the
- 5 effective date of this Act.
- 6 (b) A member of a board who, before the effective date of
- 7 this Act, completed the training program required by Section
- 8 1001.112, Occupations Code, as that section existed before the
- 9 effective date of this Act, is required to complete additional
- 10 training only on the subjects added by this Act to the training
- 11 program. A board member described by this subsection may not vote,
- 12 deliberate, or be counted as a member in attendance at a meeting of
- 13 the board held on or after September 1, 2020, until the member
- 14 completes the additional training.
- 15 SECTION 3.04. To the extent of any conflict, this Act
- 16 prevails over another Act of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session,
- 17 2019, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in
- 18 enacted codes.
- 19 SECTION 3.05. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.