By: Hinojosa of Hidalgo, et al. S.B. No. 2949 (Morales of Maverick, Guillen, Canales, Darby, Landgraf, et al.)

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 2949:

By: Darby C.S.S.B. No. 2949

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

2 relating to the regulation of certain facilities and operators

2 relating to the regulation of tertain racifities and operators

3 engaged in the motor fuel transport or export business; requiring

- 4 an occupational license; authorizing a fee; creating criminal
- 5 offenses; authorizing a civil penalty.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 7 SECTION 1. Section 162.004(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 8 as follows:

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- 9 (b) A shipping document shall contain the following
- 10 information and any other information required by the comptroller:
- 11 (1) the terminal control number of the terminal or
- 12 physical address of the terminal or bulk plant from which the motor
- 13 fuel was received;
- 14 (2) the name of the purchaser;
- 15 (3) the date the motor fuel was loaded;
- 16 (4) the net gallons loaded, or the gross gallons
- 17 loaded if the fuel was purchased from a bulk plant;
- 18 (5) the destination state of the motor fuel, as
- 19 represented by the purchaser of the motor fuel or the purchaser's
- 20 agent; [and]
- 21 (6) a description of the product being transported;
- 22 (7) the name and taxpayer number of the transportation
- 23 company; and
- 24 (8) if the motor fuel is being delivered by transport

- 1 vehicle to another country, the specific location at which the
- 2 motor fuel will cross the border.
- 3 SECTION 2. Section 162.006, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 4 Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:
- 5 (a-1) The comptroller may suspend a motor fuel
- 6 transporter's license without notice or a hearing if the license
- 7 holder fails to ensure that all employees or independent
- 8 contractors who transport motor fuel under the transporter's
- 9 license hold the specific license or endorsements required to
- 10 transport hazardous materials required by the state, territory, or
- 11 country in which the employee or independent contractor resides.
- 12 SECTION 3. Section 162.105, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 13 follows:
- 14 Sec. 162.105. PERSONS REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED. A person
- 15 shall obtain the appropriate license or licenses issued by the
- 16 comptroller before conducting the activities of:
- 17 (1) a supplier, who may also act as a distributor,
- 18 importer, exporter, blender, motor fuel transporter, or aviation
- 19 fuel dealer without securing a separate license, but who is subject
- 20 to all other conditions, requirements, and liabilities imposed on
- 21 those license holders;
- 22 (2) a permissive supplier, who may also act as a
- 23 distributor, importer, exporter, blender, motor fuel transporter,
- 24 or aviation fuel dealer without securing a separate license, but
- 25 who is subject to all other conditions, requirements, and
- 26 liabilities imposed on those license holders;
- 27 (3) a distributor, who may also act as an importer,

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exporter, blender, or motor fuel transporter without securing a
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- separate license, but who is subject to all other conditions, 2
- 3 requirements, and liabilities imposed on those license holders;
- 4 (4) an importer, who may also act as an exporter,
- 5 blender, or motor fuel transporter without securing a separate
- license, but who is subject to all other conditions, requirements, 6
- 7 and liabilities imposed on those license holders;
- 8 (5) a terminal operator;
- (6) an exporter; 9
- 10 (7) a blender;

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- a motor fuel transporter; 11 (8)
- 12 (9) an aviation fuel dealer; [or]
- 13 (10) an interstate trucker; or
- 14 (11) an export fuel transloading facility operator.
- 15 SECTION 4. Section 162.108(e), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 17 (e) An applicant for a license as a motor fuel transporter
- must list on the application each state from which and to which the 18
- applicant intends to transport motor fuel and, if required by a 19
- listed state, must be licensed or registered for gasoline tax 20
- purposes in that state. If a listed state requires the applicant to 21
- 22 licensed or registered, the applicant must provide the
- 23 applicant's license or registration number from that state. The
- 24 applicant must attest that any employee or independent contractor
- 25 who transports motor fuel under the applicant's license will hold
- 26 the specific license or endorsements required to transport
- 27 hazardous materials required by the state, territory, or country in

- 1 which the employee or independent contractor resides.
- 2 SECTION 5. Sections 162.110(a) and (c), Tax Code, are
- 3 amended to read as follows:
- 4 (a) The license issued to a supplier, permissive supplier,
- 5 distributor, importer, exporter, terminal operator, or blender[7
- 6 or motor fuel transporter] is permanent and is valid during the
- 7 period the license holder has in force and effect the required bond
- 8 or security and furnishes timely reports and supplements as
- 9 required, or until the license is surrendered by the holder or
- 10 canceled by the comptroller. The comptroller shall cancel a
- 11 license under this subsection if a purchase, sale, or use of
- 12 gasoline has not been reported by the license holder during the
- 13 previous nine months.
- 14 (c) The license issued to an interstate trucker or motor
- 15 fuel transporter is valid from the date of its issuance through
- 16 December 31 of each calendar year or until the license is
- 17 surrendered by the holder or canceled by the comptroller. The
- 18 comptroller may renew the license for each ensuing calendar year if
- 19 the license holder furnishes timely reports as required.
- SECTION 6. Section 162.205(a), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 21 as follows:
- 22 (a) A person shall obtain the appropriate license or
- 23 licenses issued by the comptroller before conducting the activities
- 24 of:
- 25 (1) a supplier, who may also act as a distributor,
- 26 importer, exporter, blender, motor fuel transporter, or aviation
- 27 fuel dealer without securing a separate license, but who is subject

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C.S.S.B. No. 2949
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- 1 to all other conditions, requirements, and liabilities imposed on
- 2 those license holders;
- 3 (2) a permissive supplier, who may also act as a
- 4 distributor, importer, exporter, blender, motor fuel transporter,
- 5 or aviation fuel dealer without securing a separate license but who
- 6 is subject to all other conditions, requirements, and liabilities
- 7 imposed on those license holders;
- 8 (3) a distributor, who may also act as an importer,
- 9 exporter, blender, or motor fuel transporter without securing a
- 10 separate license, but who is subject to all other conditions,
- 11 requirements, and liabilities imposed on those license holders;
- 12 (4) an importer, who may also act as an exporter,
- 13 blender, or motor fuel transporter without securing a separate
- 14 license, but who is subject to all other conditions, requirements,
- 15 and liabilities imposed on those license holders;
- 16 (5) a terminal operator;
- 17 (6) an exporter;
- 18 (7) a blender;
- 19 (8) a motor fuel transporter;
- 20 (9) an aviation fuel dealer;
- 21 (10) an interstate trucker; [or]
- 22 (11) a dyed diesel fuel bonded user; or
- 23 (12) an export fuel transloading facility operator.
- SECTION 7. Section 162.209(e), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 25 as follows:
- 26 (e) An applicant for a license as a motor fuel transporter
- 27 must list on the application each state from which and to which the

- 1 applicant intends to transport motor fuel and, if required by a
- 2 listed state, must be licensed or registered for diesel fuel tax
- 3 purposes in that state. If a listed state requires the applicant to
- 4 be licensed or registered, the applicant must provide the
- 5 applicant's license or registration number from that state. The
- 6 applicant must attest that any employee or independent contractor
- 7 who transports motor fuel under the applicant's license will hold
- 8 the specific license or endorsements required to transport
- 9 hazardous materials required by the state, territory, or country in
- 10 which the employee or independent contractor resides.
- SECTION 8. Sections 162.211(a) and (c), Tax Code, are
- 12 amended to read as follows:
- 13 (a) The license issued to a supplier, permissive supplier,
- 14 distributor, importer, terminal supplier, exporter, blender,
- 15 $[motor\ fuel\ transporter_{r}]$ or dyed diesel fuel bonded user is
- 16 permanent and is valid during the period the license holder has in
- 17 force and effect the required bond or security and furnishes timely
- 18 reports and supplements as required, or until the license is
- 19 surrendered by the holder or canceled by the comptroller. The
- 20 comptroller shall cancel a license under this subsection if a
- 21 purchase, sale, or use of diesel fuel has not been reported by the
- 22 license holder during the previous nine months.
- 23 (c) The license issued to an interstate trucker or motor
- 24 fuel transporter is valid from the date of its issuance through
- 25 December 31 of each calendar year or until the license is
- 26 surrendered by the holder or canceled by the comptroller. The
- 27 comptroller may renew the license for each ensuing calendar year if

- 1 the license holder furnishes timely reports as required.
- 2 SECTION 9. Chapter 162, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 3 Subchapter D-2 to read as follows:
- 4 SUBCHAPTER D-2. EXPORT FUEL TRANSLOADING FACILITIES
- 5 Sec. 162.3801. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:
- 6 (1) "Operator" means a person who holds an export fuel
- 7 transloading facility operator license issued under Section
- 8 162.3805.
- 9 (2) "Overweight corridor" means a designated section
- 10 of a state highway for which an optional procedure is authorized
- 11 under Chapter 623, Transportation Code, for the issuance of
- 12 permits:
- (A) by entities other than the Department of
- 14 Public Safety or the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles; and
- 15 (B) for the movement of oversize or overweight
- 16 <u>vehicles</u>.
- 17 (3) "Port of entry" has the meaning assigned by
- 18 Section 621.001, Transportation Code.
- 19 (4) "Transloading facility" means an export fuel
- 20 transloading facility described by Section 162.3803(a) or
- 21 162.3804(a). The term does not include a facility:
- (A) at which the transfer of motor fuel purchased
- 23 for export is authorized in accordance with a license issued under
- 24 another provision of this chapter;
- 25 (B) that is part of the bulk transfer/terminal
- 26 system; or
- (C) that is used solely for lawful activities

- 1 consistent with this chapter and is not used to facilitate or
- 2 conceal unlawful transloading, tax evasion, or other violations of
- 3 this chapter or Section 26.3574, Water Code, regardless of whether
- 4 the user holds a license.
- 5 Sec. 162.3802. PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL TRANSLOADING
- 6 FACILITIES. (a) A person may not transfer motor fuel purchased for
- 7 export:
- 8 (1) from a truck to a tank or from a tank to a truck
- 9 except:
- 10 (A) on the premises of a transloading facility
- 11 described by Section 162.3803(a);
- 12 (B) at a facility at which the transfer is
- 13 authorized under another provision of this chapter; or
- 14 (C) as provided by Section 162.3804(b); or
- 15 (2) from a truck to another truck except:
- 16 (A) on the premises of a transloading facility
- 17 described by Section 162.3804(a); or
- 18 (B) at a facility at which the transfer is
- 19 authorized under another provision of this chapter.
- 20 (b) A person may not operate a transloading facility:
- 21 (1) at a location other than a location described by
- 22 Section 162.3803(a) or 162.3804(a); and
- 23 (2) unless the person:
- 24 (A) holds an export fuel transloading facility
- 25 operator license issued under Section 162.3805;
- 26 (B) registers the transloading facility and each
- 27 tank, pump, and other apparatus used for storing or transloading

- 1 motor fuel at the facility with the Texas Commission on
- 2 Environmental Quality in the manner required by commission rule
- 3 and:
- 4 (i) pays a registration fee in an amount
- 5 prescribed by the commission sufficient to cover the commission's
- 6 costs of administering the registration program; and
- 7 <u>(ii) provides security in an amount</u>
- 8 prescribed by the commission;
- 9 (C) registers the transloading facility with the
- 10 Department of Public Safety in the manner required by department
- 11 rule and pays a registration fee in an amount prescribed by the
- 12 department sufficient to cover the department's costs of
- 13 administering the registration program and inspecting transloading
- 14 facilities;
- 15 <u>(D) complies with the requirements of this</u>
- 16 chapter and rules adopted by the comptroller, the Texas Commission
- 17 on Environmental Quality, and the Department of Public Safety under
- 18 Section 162.3806; and
- 19 (E) registers the transloading facility with the
- 20 Internal Revenue Service, if required by federal law.
- Sec. 162.3803. TRANSLOADING FACILITIES LOCATED ALONG
- 22 OVERWEIGHT CORRIDORS. (a) This section applies only to a
- 23 <u>transloading facility located:</u>
- 24 (1) along an overweight corridor;
- 25 (2) outside the boundaries of a port of entry; and
- 26 (3) not more than two miles from a port of entry.
- 27 (b) The comptr<u>oller shall require the operator of a</u>

- 1 transloading facility to which this section applies to file regular
- 2 electronic reports that contain the following information:
- 3 (1) the number of on-premises tanks at each
- 4 transloading facility operated by the operator;
- 5 (2) the owner or lessee of each tank located at the
- 6 transloading facility and, for a leased tank, the duration of the
- 7 <u>lease;</u>
- 8 (3) the number of gallons of motor fuel delivered into
- 9 each tank each day and sufficient information linking that
- 10 information to the owner of the fuel and to the bill of lading that
- 11 accompanied the fuel;
- 12 (4) the number of gallons of motor fuel removed from
- 13 each tank each day and sufficient information linking that
- 14 information to the shipping document created by the facility that
- 15 shows that the motor fuel was removed by the same owner who
- 16 <u>delivered the fuel in the tank;</u>
- 17 (5) a shipping document issued by the operator for
- 18 motor fuel removed from each tank at the transloading facility that
- 19 ensures the fuel can be tracked from the source listed on the
- 20 $\underline{\text{original bill of lading, to the tank, and to the truck that removes}}$
- 21 the fuel from this country;
- 22 <u>(6) a daily log detailing:</u>
- (A) each tractor, trailer, and driver that enters
- 24 or exits the transloading facility; and
- (B) each transfer of motor fuel purchased for
- 26 export conducted at the facility; and
- 27 (7) upon request of the comptroller, a contract

- 1 <u>described by Subsection (c).</u>
- 2 (c) The operator of a transloading facility to which this
- 3 section applies shall enter into a contract with each entity that
- 4 uses a tank at the facility. The operator may only contract with an
- 5 exporter licensed under this chapter and may not contract with a
- 6 person who has been convicted of a felony in the previous five
- 7 years.
- 8 (d) In order to ensure motor fuel at a transloading facility
- 9 to which this section applies is not commingled, all fuel that is
- 10 loaded into a particular tank at the facility must be:
- 11 (1) owned by a single entity; and
- 12 (2) removed from the tank by the same entity described
- 13 by Subdivision (1).
- 14 (e) The operator of a transloading facility to which this
- 15 section applies must provide at the transloading facility:
- 16 (1) a scale capable of weighing motor vehicles to
- 17 determine whether a permit described by Section 162.3801(2) is
- 18 required; and
- 19 (2) sufficient resources to process an application for
- 20 a permit described by Section 162.3801(2) applicable to the
- 21 overweight corridor on which the transloading facility is located.
- Sec. 162.3804. TRANSLOADING FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN
- 23 PORTS OF ENTRY. (a) This section applies only to a transloading
- 24 facility located within the boundaries of a port of entry.
- 25 (b) A person may transfer motor fuel purchased for export
- 26 from a truck to a tank or from a tank to a truck at a transloading
- 27 facility to which this section applies only in the case of an

1 emergency. 2 (c) The comptroller shall require the operator of a 3 transloading facility to which this section applies to file regular electronic reports that contain the following information: 4 5 (1) the number of gallons of motor fuel delivered into the premises of the transloading facility in each truck each day and 6 7 sufficient information linking that information to the owner of the 8 fuel and to the bill of lading that accompanied the fuel; 9 (2) the number of gallons of motor fuel removed from 10 the premises of the transloading facility in each truck each day and sufficient information linking that information to the shipping 11 12 document described by Subdivision (3) that shows that the fuel was removed by the same owner who delivered the fuel into the facility; 13 14 (3) a shipping document issued by the operator for 15 motor fuel removed from the facility that ensures that the fuel can be tracked from the source listed on the original bill of lading to 16 17 the truck that removes the fuel from this country; and (4) a daily log detailing: 18 19 (A) each tractor, trailer, and driver that enters or exits the facility, together with the information contained in 20 the bill of lading accompanying each truck; and 21 22 (B) each transfer of motor fuel purchased for export conducted at the facility. 23

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to which this section applies is not commingled, all fuel that is

transferred from a truck to another truck at the facility must be

(d) In order to ensure motor fuel at a transloading facility

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owned by a single entity.

- 1 Sec. 162.3805. EXPORT FUEL TRANSLOADING FACILITY
- 2 OPERATORS. (a) The comptroller shall issue an export fuel
- 3 transloading facility operator license to each person who applies
- 4 to the comptroller and qualifies under this section.
- 5 (b) An operator license is valid until the earlier of:
- 6 (1) December 31 of each calendar year; or
- 7 (2) the date the license is surrendered by the holder
- 8 or canceled by the comptroller.
- 9 (c) An applicant for a license under this section must file
- 10 with the comptroller an application in a form and manner prescribed
- 11 by the comptroller. An application for a license under this section
- 12 must be substantially similar to an application for a license under
- 13 Section 2153.153, Occupations Code.
- 14 (d) The comptroller shall require each operator to post a
- 15 bond under Section 162.111 in an amount determined in accordance
- 16 with Section 162.111(b).
- 17 Sec. 162.3806. RULES. (a) The comptroller shall adopt
- 18 rules to implement, administer, and enforce this subchapter,
- 19 including rules:
- 20 (1) governing the operation of transloading
- 21 facilities; and
- 22 (2) ensuring that all motor fuel transferred at a
- 23 <u>transloading facility may be traced from</u> the point of removal from
- 24 the bulk transfer/terminal system to the point of export from this
- 25 country.
- 26 (b) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the
- 27 Department of Public Safety shall each adopt rules to implement,

- 1 administer, and enforce this subchapter, including rules:
- 2 (1) governing the operation of transloading
- 3 facilities to ensure public health, safety, and welfare; and
- 4 (2) providing for periodic and risk-based inspections
- 5 of transloading facilities to ensure compliance with this
- 6 subchapter and rules adopted under this section.
- 7 SECTION 10. Section 162.402, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 8 Subsection (f) to read as follows:
- 9 (f) A motor fuel transporter who fails to ensure that an
- 10 employee or independent contractor who transports motor fuel under
- 11 the transporter's license holds the specific license or
- 12 endorsements required to transport hazardous materials required by
- 13 the state, territory, or country in which the employee or
- 14 independent contractor resides is liable to this state for a civil
- 15 penalty in the amount of \$25,000 for each occurrence.
- 16 SECTION 11. (a) Effective September 1, 2025, Section
- 17 162.403, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 18 Sec. 162.403. CRIMINAL OFFENSES. Except as provided by
- 19 Section 162.404, a person commits an offense if the person:
- 20 (1) refuses to stop and permit the inspection and
- 21 examination of a motor vehicle transporting or using motor fuel on
- 22 the demand of a peace officer or the comptroller;
- 23 (2) is required to hold a valid trip permit or
- 24 interstate trucker's license, but operates a motor vehicle in this
- 25 state without a valid trip permit or interstate trucker's license;
- 26 (3) transports gasoline or diesel fuel in any cargo
- 27 tank that has a connection by pipe, tube, valve, or otherwise with

- 1 the fuel injector or carburetor or with the fuel supply tank feeding
- 2 the fuel injector or carburetor of the motor vehicle transporting
- 3 the product;
- 4 (4) sells or delivers gasoline or diesel fuel from a
- 5 fuel supply tank that is connected with the fuel injector or
- 6 carburetor of a motor vehicle;
- 7 (5) owns or operates a motor vehicle for which reports
- 8 or mileage records are required by this chapter without an
- 9 operating odometer or other device in good working condition to
- 10 record accurately the miles traveled;
- 11 (6) sells or delivers dyed diesel fuel for the
- 12 operation of a motor vehicle on a public highway;
- 13 (7) uses dyed diesel fuel for the operation of a motor
- 14 vehicle on a public highway except as allowed under Section
- 15 162.235;
- 16 (8) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney
- 17 general to inspect, examine, or audit a book or record required to
- 18 be kept by a license holder, other user, or any person required to
- 19 hold a license under this chapter;
- 20 (9) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney
- 21 general to inspect or examine any plant, equipment, materials, or
- 22 premises where motor fuel is produced, processed, blended, stored,
- 23 sold, delivered, or used;
- 24 (10) refuses to permit the comptroller, the attorney
- 25 general, an employee of either of those officials, a peace officer,
- 26 an employee of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or an
- 27 employee of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to

- 1 measure or gauge the contents of or take samples from a storage tank
- 2 or container on premises where motor fuel is produced, processed,
- 3 blended, stored, sold, delivered, or used;
- 4 (11) is a license holder, a person required to be
- 5 licensed, or another user and fails or refuses to make or deliver to
- 6 the comptroller a report required by this chapter to be made and
- 7 delivered to the comptroller;
- 8 (12) is an importer who does not obtain an import
- 9 verification number when required by this chapter;
- 10 (13) purchases motor fuel for export, on which the tax
- 11 imposed by this chapter has not been paid, and subsequently diverts
- 12 or causes the motor fuel to be diverted to a destination in this
- 13 state or any other state or country other than the originally
- 14 designated state or country without first obtaining a diversion
- 15 number;
- 16 (14) conceals motor fuel with the intent of engaging
- 17 in any conduct proscribed by this chapter or refuses to make sales
- 18 of motor fuel on the volume-corrected basis prescribed by this
- 19 chapter;
- 20 (15) refuses, while transporting motor fuel, to stop
- 21 the motor vehicle the person is operating when called on to do so by
- 22 a person authorized to stop the motor vehicle;
- 23 (16) refuses to surrender a motor vehicle and cargo
- 24 for impoundment after being ordered to do so by a person authorized
- 25 to impound the motor vehicle and cargo;
- 26 (17) mutilates, destroys, or secretes a book or record
- 27 required by this chapter to be kept by a license holder, other user,

- 1 or person required to hold a license under this chapter;
- 2 (18) is a license holder, other user, or other person
- 3 required to hold a license under this chapter, or the agent or
- 4 employee of one of those persons, and makes a false entry or fails
- 5 to make an entry in the books and records required under this
- 6 chapter to be made by the person or fails to retain a document as
- 7 required by this chapter;
- 8 (19) transports in any manner motor fuel under a false
- 9 cargo manifest or shipping document, or transports in any manner
- 10 motor fuel to a location without delivering at the same time a
- 11 shipping document relating to that shipment;
- 12 (20) engages in a motor fuel transaction that requires
- 13 that the person have a license under this chapter without then and
- 14 there holding the required license;
- 15 (21) makes and delivers or causes to be made and
- 16 <u>delivered</u> to the comptroller a report <u>or application</u> required under
- 17 this chapter to be made and delivered to the comptroller, if the
- 18 report or application contains false information;
- 19 (22) forges, falsifies, or alters an invoice or
- 20 shipping document prescribed by law;
- 21 (23) makes any statement, knowing said statement to be
- 22 false, in a claim for a tax refund filed with the comptroller;
- 23 (24) furnishes to a licensed supplier or distributor a
- 24 signed statement for purchasing diesel fuel tax-free and then uses
- 25 the tax-free diesel fuel to operate a diesel-powered motor vehicle
- 26 on a public highway;
- 27 (25) holds an aviation fuel dealer's license and makes

- 1 a taxable sale or use of any gasoline or diesel fuel;
- 2 (26) fails to remit any tax funds collected or
- 3 required to be collected by a license holder, another user, or any
- 4 other person required to hold a license under this chapter;
- 5 (27) makes a sale of dyed diesel fuel tax-free into a
- 6 storage facility of a person who:
- 7 (A) is not licensed as a distributor, as an
- 8 aviation fuel dealer, or as a dyed diesel fuel bonded user; or
- 9 (B) does not furnish to the licensed supplier or
- 10 distributor a signed statement prescribed in Section 162.206;
- 11 (28) makes a sale of gasoline tax-free to any person
- 12 who is not licensed as an aviation fuel dealer;
- 13 (29) purchases any motor fuel tax-free when not
- 14 authorized to make a tax-free purchase under this chapter;
- 15 (30) purchases motor fuel with the intent to evade any
- 16 tax imposed by this chapter or accepts a delivery of motor fuel by
- 17 any means and does not at the same time accept or receive a shipping
- 18 document relating to the delivery;
- 19 (31) transports motor fuel for which a cargo manifest
- 20 or shipping document is required to be carried without possessing
- 21 or exhibiting on demand by an officer authorized to make the demand
- 22 a cargo manifest or shipping document containing the information
- 23 required to be shown on the manifest or shipping document;
- 24 (32) imports, sells, uses, blends, distributes, or
- 25 stores motor fuel within this state on which the taxes imposed by
- 26 this chapter are owed but have not been first paid to or reported by
- 27 a license holder, another user, or any other person required to hold

- 1 a license under this chapter;
- 2 (33) blends products together to produce a blended
- 3 fuel that is offered for sale, sold, or used and that expands the
- 4 volume of the original product to evade paying applicable motor
- 5 fuel taxes;
- 6 (34) evades or attempts to evade in any manner a tax
- 7 imposed on motor fuel by this chapter;
- 8 (35) delivers compressed natural gas or liquefied
- 9 natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle and the
- 10 person does not hold a valid compressed natural gas and liquefied
- 11 natural gas dealer's license; or
- 12 (36) makes a tax-free delivery of compressed natural
- 13 gas or liquefied natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor
- 14 vehicle, unless the delivery is exempt from tax under Section
- 15 162.356.
- 16 (b) Effective January 1, 2026, Section 162.403, Tax Code, is
- 17 amended to read as follows:
- 18 Sec. 162.403. CRIMINAL OFFENSES. Except as provided by
- 19 Section 162.404, a person commits an offense if the person:
- 20 (1) refuses to stop and permit the inspection and
- 21 examination of a motor vehicle transporting or using motor fuel on
- 22 the demand of a peace officer or the comptroller;
- 23 (2) is required to hold a valid trip permit or
- 24 interstate trucker's license, but operates a motor vehicle in this
- 25 state without a valid trip permit or interstate trucker's license;
- 26 (3) transports gasoline or diesel fuel in any cargo
- 27 tank that has a connection by pipe, tube, valve, or otherwise with

- 1 the fuel injector or carburetor or with the fuel supply tank feeding
- 2 the fuel injector or carburetor of the motor vehicle transporting
- 3 the product;
- 4 (4) sells or delivers gasoline or diesel fuel from a
- 5 fuel supply tank that is connected with the fuel injector or
- 6 carburetor of a motor vehicle;
- 7 (5) owns or operates a motor vehicle for which reports
- 8 or mileage records are required by this chapter without an
- 9 operating odometer or other device in good working condition to
- 10 record accurately the miles traveled;
- 11 (6) sells or delivers dyed diesel fuel for the
- 12 operation of a motor vehicle on a public highway;
- 13 (7) uses dyed diesel fuel for the operation of a motor
- 14 vehicle on a public highway except as allowed under Section
- 15 162.235;
- 16 (8) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney
- 17 general to inspect, examine, or audit a book or record required to
- 18 be kept by a license holder, other user, or any person required to
- 19 hold a license under this chapter;
- 20 (9) refuses to permit the comptroller or the attorney
- 21 general to inspect or examine any plant, equipment, materials, or
- 22 premises where motor fuel is produced, processed, blended, stored,
- 23 sold, delivered, or used;
- 24 (10) refuses to permit the comptroller, the attorney
- 25 general, an employee of either of those officials, a peace officer,
- 26 an employee of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or an
- 27 employee of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to

- 1 measure or gauge the contents of or take samples from a storage tank
- 2 or container on premises where motor fuel is produced, processed,
- 3 blended, stored, sold, delivered, or used;
- 4 (11) is a license holder, a person required to be
- 5 licensed, or another user and fails or refuses to make or deliver to
- 6 the comptroller a report required by this chapter to be made and
- 7 delivered to the comptroller;
- 8 (12) is an importer who does not obtain an import
- 9 verification number when required by this chapter;
- 10 (13) purchases motor fuel for export, on which the tax
- 11 imposed by this chapter has not been paid, and subsequently diverts
- 12 or causes the motor fuel to be diverted to a destination in this
- 13 state or any other state or country other than the originally
- 14 designated state or country without first obtaining a diversion
- 15 number;
- 16 (14) conceals motor fuel with the intent of engaging
- 17 in any conduct proscribed by this chapter or refuses to make sales
- 18 of motor fuel on the volume-corrected basis prescribed by this
- 19 chapter;
- 20 (15) refuses, while transporting motor fuel, to stop
- 21 the motor vehicle the person is operating when called on to do so by
- 22 a person authorized to stop the motor vehicle;
- 23 (16) refuses to surrender a motor vehicle and cargo
- 24 for impoundment after being ordered to do so by a person authorized
- 25 to impound the motor vehicle and cargo;
- 26 (17) mutilates, destroys, or secretes a book or record
- 27 required by this chapter to be kept by a license holder, other user,

- 1 or person required to hold a license under this chapter;
- 2 (18) is a license holder, other user, or other person
- 3 required to hold a license under this chapter, or the agent or
- 4 employee of one of those persons, and makes a false entry or fails
- 5 to make an entry in the books and records required under this
- 6 chapter to be made by the person or fails to retain a document as
- 7 required by this chapter;
- 8 (19) transports in any manner motor fuel under a false
- 9 cargo manifest or shipping document, or transports in any manner
- 10 motor fuel to a location without delivering at the same time a
- 11 shipping document relating to that shipment;
- 12 (20) engages in a motor fuel transaction that requires
- 13 that the person have a license under this chapter without then and
- 14 there holding the required license;
- 15 (21) makes and delivers or causes to be made or
- 16 <u>delivered</u> to the comptroller a report <u>or application</u> required under
- 17 this chapter to be made and delivered to the comptroller, if the
- 18 report or application contains false information;
- 19 (22) forges, falsifies, or alters an invoice or
- 20 shipping document prescribed by law;
- 21 (23) makes any statement, knowing said statement to be
- 22 false, in a claim for a tax refund filed with the comptroller;
- 23 (24) furnishes to a licensed supplier or distributor a
- 24 signed statement for purchasing diesel fuel tax-free and then uses
- 25 the tax-free diesel fuel to operate a diesel-powered motor vehicle
- 26 on a public highway;
- 27 (25) holds an aviation fuel dealer's license and makes

- 1 a taxable sale or use of any gasoline or diesel fuel;
- 2 (26) fails to remit any tax funds collected or
- 3 required to be collected by a license holder, another user, or any
- 4 other person required to hold a license under this chapter;
- 5 (27) makes a sale of dyed diesel fuel tax-free into a
- 6 storage facility of a person who:
- 7 (A) is not licensed as a distributor, as an
- 8 aviation fuel dealer, or as a dyed diesel fuel bonded user; or
- 9 (B) does not furnish to the licensed supplier or
- 10 distributor a signed statement prescribed in Section 162.206;
- 11 (28) makes a sale of gasoline tax-free to any person
- 12 who is not licensed as an aviation fuel dealer;
- 13 (29) purchases any motor fuel tax-free when not
- 14 authorized to make a tax-free purchase under this chapter;
- 15 (30) purchases motor fuel with the intent to evade any
- 16 tax imposed by this chapter or accepts a delivery of motor fuel by
- 17 any means and does not at the same time accept or receive a shipping
- 18 document relating to the delivery;
- 19 (31) transports motor fuel for which a cargo manifest
- 20 or shipping document is required to be carried without possessing
- 21 or exhibiting on demand by an officer authorized to make the demand
- 22 a cargo manifest or shipping document containing the information
- 23 required to be shown on the manifest or shipping document;
- 24 (32) imports, sells, uses, blends, distributes, or
- 25 stores motor fuel within this state on which the taxes imposed by
- 26 this chapter are owed but have not been first paid to or reported by
- 27 a license holder, another user, or any other person required to hold

- 1 a license under this chapter;
- 2 (33) blends products together to produce a blended
- 3 fuel that is offered for sale, sold, or used and that expands the
- 4 volume of the original product to evade paying applicable motor
- 5 fuel taxes;
- 6 (34) evades or attempts to evade in any manner a tax
- 7 imposed on motor fuel by this chapter;
- 8 (35) delivers compressed natural gas or liquefied
- 9 natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle and the
- 10 person does not hold a valid compressed natural gas and liquefied
- 11 natural gas dealer's license; [er]
- 12 (36) makes a tax-free delivery of compressed natural
- 13 gas or liquefied natural gas into the fuel supply tank of a motor
- 14 vehicle, unless the delivery is exempt from tax under Section
- 15 162.356<u>;</u>
- 16 (37) transfers motor fuel purchased for export in
- 17 violation of Section 162.3802(a); or
- 18 (38) operates an export fuel transloading facility in
- 19 violation of Section 162.3802(b).
- 20 SECTION 12. Effective January 1, 2026, Section 162.405(d),
- 21 Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 22 (d) An offense under Section 162.403(6), (17), (18), (19),
- 23 (20), (21), (22), (23), $[\frac{\text{or}}{\text{or}}]$ (24), (37), or (38) is a felony of the
- 24 third degree.
- 25 SECTION 13. Article 18B.202(a), Code of Criminal Procedure,
- 26 is amended to read as follows:
- 27 (a) A district judge may issue an order for the installation

- 1 and use of a mobile tracking device only on the application of:
- 2 (1) an authorized peace officer; or
- 3 (2) a peace officer commissioned by the comptroller.
- 4 SECTION 14. Subchapter G, Chapter 621, Transportation Code,
- 5 is amended by adding Section 621.512 to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 621.512. PROHIBITION ON OPERATING CERTAIN OVERWEIGHT
- 7 VEHICLES TRANSPORTING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ON ROUTE OTHER THAN
- 8 DESIGNATED PERMIT ROUTE. (a) A person commits an offense if the
- 9 person operates or moves an overweight vehicle described by
- 10 Subsection (a-1) on a public highway:
- 11 (1) that is not included in the route designated under
- 12 the permit under which the vehicle is operating; or
- 13 (2) without a permit authorizing the movement of the
- 14 vehicle, and the vehicle exceeds the maximum gross weight
- 15 <u>authorized for the vehicle by at least five percent.</u>
- 16 <u>(a-1)</u> Subsection (a) applies only to an overweight vehicle
- 17 with at least three axles that is transporting in a cargo tank
- 18 hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placarding by a
- 19 regulation issued under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act
- 20 (49 U.S.C. Section 5101 et seq.).
- 21 (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second
- 22 degree.
- 23 <u>(c) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this</u>
- 24 section that, at the time of the offense, the vehicle was being
- 25 operated or moved:
- 26 (1) under the immediate direction of a law enforcement
- 27 agency; or

- 1 (2) in compliance with a permit authorizing the
- 2 movement of the vehicle issued by the department or a political
- 3 <u>subdivision of this state.</u>
- 4 SECTION 15. The changes in law made by this Act apply only
- 5 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
- 6 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
- 7 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
- 8 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
- 9 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
- 10 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
- 11 before that date.
- 12 SECTION 16. Sections 162.108, 162.110, 162.209, and
- 13 162.211, Tax Code, as amended by this Act, apply to a license issued
- 14 to a motor fuel transporter, regardless of whether the license was
- 15 issued before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.
- 16 SECTION 17. Not later than January 1, 2026:
- 17 (1) the comptroller of public accounts, the Texas
- 18 Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Department of Public
- 19 Safety shall each adopt the rules required by Section 162.3806, Tax
- 20 Code, as added by this Act;
- 21 (2) the comptroller of public accounts shall begin
- 22 issuing export fuel transloading facility operator licenses under
- 23 Section 162.3805, Tax Code, as added by this Act;
- 24 (3) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- 25 shall begin registering export fuel transloading facilities,
- 26 tanks, pumps, and other apparatus used for storing or transloading
- 27 motor fuel under Section 162.3802(b)(2)(B), Tax Code, as added by

- 1 this Act; and
- 2 (4) the Department of Public Safety shall begin
- 3 registering export fuel transloading facilities under Section
- 4 162.3802(b)(2)(C), Tax Code, as added by this Act.
- 5 SECTION 18. A person is not required to comply with
- 6 Subchapter D-2, Chapter 162, Tax Code, as added by this Act, before
- 7 January 1, 2026.
- 8 SECTION 19. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this
- 9 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.