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THE TEXAS SENATE



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COMMITTEES ON:
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NATURAL RESOURCES &
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NOMINATIONS
REDISTRICTING

June 2, 2022

Chairman Wayne Christian
Commissioner Christi Craddick
Commissioner Jim Wright
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N Congress Avenue
PO Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Senate Bill 1668 Legislative Intent

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

I write today to advise of the legislative intent in the passage of Senate Bill 1668 during the regular session of the 87th Legislature. SB 1668 sought to simplify the certification process required to refill propane tanks in Texas. The liquefied petroleum gas cylinder licensing process available at the Texas Railroad Commission was not feasible. It provided many obstacles to Texas employees seeking certification to refill propane cylinders and tanks as part of their jobs. Having propane cylinders and tanks filled is in high demand by Texans. Texas propane retailers have not been able to adequately meet consumers' demand seeking to have cylinders and mounted tanks refilled due to the limitations and obstacles, locations, and travel times presented in obtaining the training and certification required by the RRC. Thus, the intent of SB 1668 was to streamline this process and eliminate unnecessary regulatory barriers to allow greater access to the training and examination required to obtain a certificate.

The nationally recognized industry standard for safety and education in propane is the Propane Education Research Council. PERC has online training and examinations for all training necessary to refill cylinders and mounted tanks. Allowing employees of licensed retailers in Texas or anyone who needs to obtain a certificate in filling propane containers under a certain size to complete the PERC, or PERC-based, training (including training by a retailer that uses PERC content within the retailer's training system) and examination in an online system will allow for many more Texans to be properly certified. Thus, the intent of SB 1668 was to allow an applicant to complete the PERC or PERC-based training and examination online or in person where available and to submit completion of that training and exam along with a fee and application to the RRC to obtain a certificate.

DISTRICT ONE

BOWIE, CAMP, CASS, FRANKLIN, GREGG, HARRISON, LAMAR, MARION, MORRIS, PANOLA, RED RIVER, RUSK, SMITH, TITUS, UPSHUR AND WOOD COUNTIES

The Honorable Wayne Christian

June 2, 2022

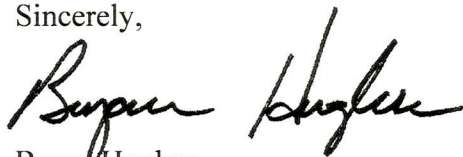
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There was no intent whatsoever to create any outside trainer certification. That is not necessary with the PERC or PERC-based training and exam available online through PERC or certain licensed retailers. That language is not in the bill, nor is there any intent in the bill to provide for that. Creating this type of additional certification will only serve to create additional regulatory barriers, which I sought to resolve in the passage of this bill.

The intent of the bill was to simplify the process of obtaining a certificate to safely refill propane tanks by allowing for submission of completion of training and exam administered outside the RRC using approved PERC content; I thank you for overseeing its proper implementation.

Thank you for your service to our state, and thank you for considering my thoughts on this important matter. If you have any questions, or if I can be of any help to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Bryan Hughes