

SUBJECT: Nonsubstantive additions to the Occupations Code

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 9 ayes — Wolens, Bailey, Brimer, Counts, Danburg, Hunter, Longoria, McCall, McClendon

0 nays

6 absent — S. Turner, Craddick, Hilbert, D. Jones, Marchant, Merritt

WITNESSES: For — None

Against — None

On — Shawn Harrison, Texas Legislative Council

BACKGROUND: Under Government Code, sec. 323.007, the Texas Legislative Council is required to make periodic revisions to Texas statutes to make them more accessible, understandable and usable without altering the sense, meaning or effect of the law. As part of this process, the Legislative Council reclassifies and rearranges statutes in a more logical order; employs a numbering system and format that will accommodate future expansion of the law; eliminates repealed, invalid and duplicative provisions; and improves the draftsmanship of the law.

The 76th Legislature enacted the Occupations Code, which collected and rearranged statutes regulating various occupations.

DIGEST: HB 2813 would add new titles to the Occupations Code, collecting and rearranging statutes involving:

- ! regulation of engineering, architecture, land surveying, and related practices (new Title 6);
- ! practices and professions related to real property and housing (Title 7);
- ! regulation of environmental and industrial trades (Title 8);

HB 2813
House Research Organization
page 2

- ! practices and trades related to water, health, and safety (Title 12);
- ! regulation of motor vehicles and transportation (Title 14); and
- ! occupations related to employment (Title 15).

The bill would state legislative intent that HB 2813 is a nonsubstantive recodification authorized by Art. 3, sec. 43 of the Texas Constitution.

The bill would take effect June 1, 2003.

NOTES:

The companion bill, SB 1362 by Cain, was referred to the Senate Administration Committee.

A related bill, HB 2809 by Wolens, which would require courts or other entities interpreting codified statutes to give them the same effect and meaning that they would have been given before their codification, among other changes, was reported favorably, without amendment, by the House State Affairs Committee on April 9.