CHAPTER 58
H.B. No. 1305
AN ACT relating to the criminal penalty for acting as an agent after suspension or revocation of the agent’s license.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 4005.151(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:
(b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree [punishable by:
(1) a fine not to exceed $5,000;
(2) imprisonment for a term of not more than two years; or
(3) both fine and imprisonment under this subsection].

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 18, 2013: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 8, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.
Approved May 18, 2013.
Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 59
H.B. No. 1550
AN ACT relating to unemployment compensation chargebacks regarding certain persons who are involuntarily separated from employment.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 204.022(a), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:
(a) Benefits computed on benefit wage credits of an employee or former employee may not be charged to the account of an employer if the employee's last separation from the employer's employment before the employee's benefit year:
(1) was required by a federal statute;
(2) was required by a statute of this state or an ordinance of a municipality of this state;
(3) would have disqualified the employee under Section 207.044, 207.045, 207.051, or 207.053 if the employment had been the employee's last work;
(4) imposes a disqualification under Section 207.044, 207.045, 207.051, or 207.053;
was caused by a medically verifiable illness of the employee or the employee's minor child;

(6) was based on a natural disaster that results in a disaster declaration by the president of the United States under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Section 5121 et seq.), if the employee would have been entitled to unemployment assistance benefits under Section 410 of that act (42 U.S.C. Section 5177) had the employee not received state unemployment compensation benefits;

(7) was caused by a natural disaster, fire, flood, or explosion that causes employees to be separated from one employer's employment;

(8) was based on a disaster that results in a disaster declaration by the governor under Section 418.014, Government Code;

(9) resulted from the employee's resigning from partial employment to accept other employment that the employee reasonably believed would increase the employee's weekly wage;

(10) was caused by the employer being called to active military service in any branch of the United States armed forces on or after January 1, 2003;

(11) resulted from the employee leaving the employee's workplace to protect the employee from family violence or stalking as evidenced by:

(A) an active or recently issued protective order documenting family violence against, or the stalking of, the employee or the potential for family violence against, or the stalking of, the employee;

(B) a police record documenting family violence against, or the stalking of, the employee; or

(C) a physician's statement or other medical documentation that describes the family violence against the employee that:

(i) is recorded in any form or medium that identifies the employee as the patient; and

(ii) relates to the history, diagnosis, treatment, or prognosis of the patient;

(12) resulted from a move from the area of the employee's employment that:

(A) was made with the employee's spouse who is a member of the armed forces of the United States; and

(B) resulted from the spouse's permanent change of station of longer than 120 days or a tour of duty of longer than one year;

(13) was caused by the employee being unable to perform the work as a result of a disability for which the employee is receiving disability insurance benefits under 42 U.S.C. Section 423;

(14) resulted from the employee leaving the employee's workplace to care for the employee's terminally ill spouse as evidenced by a physician's statement or other medical documentation, but only if no reasonable, alternative care was available; or

(15) was caused by the employer's reinstatement of a qualified uniformed service member with reemployment rights and benefits and other employment benefits in accordance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq.); or

(16) was due to a reason that:

(A) constitutes an involuntary separation under Section 207.046(a)(1); and

(B) does not constitute good cause connected with the employee's work under Section 207.045 for the employee to voluntarily leave the employment.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a claim for unemployment compensation benefits filed with the Texas Workforce Commission on or after the effective date of this Act. A claim filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the claim was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
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SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.
Passed by the House on April 11, 2013: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 8, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.
Approved May 18, 2013.
Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 60
H.B. No. 1553
AN ACT relating to the replatting of a subdivision without vacating the preceding plat in certain municipalities.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:
SECTION 1. Section 212.0146(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:
(a) This section applies only to a replat of a subdivision or a part of a subdivision located in a municipality or the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality with a population of 1.3 million or more.
SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.
Passed by the House on April 25, 2013: Yeas 136, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 8, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.
Approved May 18, 2013.
Effective May 18, 2013.

CHAPTER 61
H.B. No. 1968
AN ACT relating to the transfer of certain state property from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department to Jefferson County.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:
SECTION 1. (a) Not later than January 31, 2014, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department shall donate and transfer to Jefferson County the real property described by Subsection (e) of this section.
(b) Jefferson County may use the property transferred under this Act only for a purpose that benefits the public interest of the state. If Jefferson County uses the property for any purpose other than a purpose described by this subsection, ownership of the property automatically reverts to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.
(c) The Texas Juvenile Justice Department shall transfer the property by an appropriate instrument of transfer. The instrument of transfer must:
(1) provide that:
(A) Jefferson County may use the property only for a purpose that benefits the public interest of the state; and
(B) ownership of the property will automatically revert to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department if Jefferson County uses the property for any purpose other than a purpose described by Paragraph (A) of this subsection; and...