CHAPTER 634

H.B. No. 394

AN ACT relating to limits on prizes for bingo games.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2001.420(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A person may not offer or award on a single bingo occasion prizes with an aggregate value of more than $2,500 for all bingo games other than:

1. pull-tab bingo; or
2. bingo games that award individual prizes of $50 or less.

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 30, 2013: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 21, 2013: Yeas 21, Nays 10.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 635

H.B. No. 474

AN ACT relating to an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit by a certain regional mobility authority for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo; authorizing a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 623, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Q to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Q. REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY PERMITS

Sec. 623.320. OPTIONAL PROCEDURE. This subchapter provides an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit by a regional mobility authority for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on certain roads located in Hidalgo County.

Sec. 623.321. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, “authority” means the regional mobility authority authorized to issue permits under Section 623.322.

Sec. 623.322. ISSUANCE OF PERMITS. (a) The commission may authorize a regional mobility authority to issue permits for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo in Hidalgo County on:

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(1) the following roads:
   (A) U.S. Highway 281 between its intersection with the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge and its intersection with State Highway 336;
   (B) State Highway 336 between its intersection with U.S. Highway 281 and its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 1016;
   (C) Farm-to-Market Road 1016 between its intersection with State Highway 336 and its intersection with Trinity Road;
   (D) Trinity Road between its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 1016 and its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 396;
   (E) Farm-to-Market Road 396 between its intersection with Trinity Road and its intersection with the Anzalduas International Bridge;
   (F) Farm-to-Market Road 2061 between its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 3072 and its intersection with U.S. Highway 281;
   (G) U.S. Highway 281 between its intersection with the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge and its intersection with Spur 29;
   (H) Spur 29 between its intersection with U.S. Highway 281 and its intersection with Doffin Canal Road; and
   (I) Doffin Canal Road between its intersection with the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge and its intersection with Spur 29; or

(2) another route designated by the commission in consultation with the authority.

Sec. 623.323. PERMIT FEES. (a) The authority may collect a fee for permits issued under this subchapter. Beginning September 1, 2013, the maximum amount of the fee may not exceed $80 per trip. On September 1 of each subsequent year, the authority may adjust the maximum fee amount as necessary to reflect the percentage change during the preceding year in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. City Average, published monthly by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics or its successor in function.

(b) Fees collected under Subsection (a) shall be used only for the construction and maintenance of the roads described by or designated under Section 623.322 and for the authority's administrative costs, which may not exceed 15 percent of the fees collected. The authority shall make payments to the Texas Department of Transportation to provide funds for the maintenance of roads and highways subject to this subchapter.

Sec. 623.324. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. (a) A permit issued under this subchapter must include:

(1) the name of the applicant;
(2) the date of issuance;
(3) the signature of the designated agent for the authority;
(4) a statement of the kind of cargo being transported, the maximum weight and dimensions of the equipment, and the kind and weight of each commodity to be transported;
(5) a statement:
   (A) that the gross weight of the vehicle for which a permit is issued may not exceed 125,000 pounds; and
   (B) of any other condition on which the permit is issued;
(6) a statement that the cargo may be transported in Hidalgo County only over the roads described by or designated under Section 623.322; and
(7) the location where the cargo was loaded.

(b) The authority shall report to the department all permits issued under this subchapter.
Sec. 623.325. TIME OF MOVEMENT. A permit issued under this subchapter must specify the time during which movement authorized by the permit is allowed.

Sec. 623.326. SPEED LIMIT. Movement authorized by a permit issued under this subchapter may not exceed the posted speed limit or 55 miles per hour, whichever is less. A violation of this provision constitutes a moving violation.

Sec. 623.327. ENFORCEMENT. The Department of Public Safety has authority to enforce this subchapter.

Sec. 623.328. RULES. The commission may adopt rules necessary to implement this subchapter.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 11, 2013: Yeas 143, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 474 on May 23, 2013: Yeas 142, Nays 4, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 14, 2013.
Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 636

H.B. No. 506

AN ACT

relating to the location of early voting polling places for elections held on the November uniform election date by a political subdivision.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 85, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 85.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 85.010. EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE FOR CERTAIN ELECTIONS HELD BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. (a) This section applies to an election held by a political subdivision, other than a county, on the November uniform election date in which the political subdivision:

(1) is not holding a joint election with a county in accordance with Chapter 271; and

(2) has not executed a contract with a county elections officer under which the political subdivision and the county share early voting polling places for the election.

(b) A political subdivision that holds an election described by Subsection (a) shall designate as an early voting polling place for the election any early voting polling place, other than a polling place established under Section 85.062(e), established by the county and located in the political subdivision.

(c) A shared polling place established under Subsection (b) that is designated as a main early voting polling place by any political subdivision must be open for voting for all political subdivisions the polling place serves for at least the days and hours required of a main early voting polling place under Section 85.002 for the political subdivision making the designation.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on May 8, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 506 on May 23, 2013: Yeas 138, Nays 4, 3 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2013: Yeas 28, Nays 2.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective September 1, 2013.