Sec. 10. OPEN RECORDS LIMITATION. Information that is filed as part of an allegation of professional misconduct or professional negligence or that is obtained during an investigation of an allegation of professional misconduct or professional negligence is not subject to release under Chapter 552, Government Code, until the conclusion of an investigation by the commission under Section 4.

Sec. 11. REPORT INADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE. A written report prepared by the commission under this article is not admissible in a civil or criminal action.

SECTION 5. Subchapter A, Chapter 411, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 411.0011 to read as follows:

Sec. 411.0011. CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS ENGAGED IN CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITIES. For purposes of this chapter, a reference to “criminal justice agency” includes a local government corporation created under Subchapter D, Chapter 431, Transportation Code, for governmental purposes relating to criminal identification activities, including forensic analysts, that allocates a substantial part of its annual budget to those criminal identification activities.

SECTION 6. Section 411.0205, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-3) to read as follows:

(b-3) The director shall require that a laboratory, facility, or entity that must be accredited under this section, as part of the accreditation process, agree to consent to any request for cooperation by the Texas Forensic Science Commission that is made as part of the exercise of the commission’s duties under Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure.

SECTION 7. The term of a person appointed under former Subdivision (3), Subsection (a), Section 3, Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, as that law existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, expires September 1, 2014, and the governor shall appoint a person to fill each vacancy on that date in accordance with Subdivisions (7) and (8), Subsection (a), Section 3, Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act. On the expiration of a term under former Subdivision (1) or (2), Subsection (a), Section 3, Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act, the governor shall appoint a person to fill each vacancy in accordance with Subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6), Subsection (a), Section 3, Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act, as applicable.

SECTION 8. Not later than December 1, 2014, the Texas Forensic Science Commission shall submit the first annual report required by Section 8, Article 38.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by this Act.

SECTION 9. 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 the Senate on April 4, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 20, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House, with amendment, on May 17, 2013: Yeas 141, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 14, 2013.
Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 783
S.B. No. 1241

AN ACT
relating to the Edwards Aquifer Authority’s regulation of wells with limited production capabilities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1.33, Chapter 626 (S.B. 1477), Acts of the 73rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1993, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

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(c) A well serving a subdivision requiring platting does not qualify for an exempt use.

(d) A well drilled on or before June 1, 2013, for any purpose authorized under this article is exempt from the requirement to obtain a withdrawal permit provided that the well:

(1) is not capable of producing more than 1,250 gallons of water a day; or

(2) is metered and does not produce more than 1.4 acre-feet of water in a calendar year.

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

Passed the Senate on April 4, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 20, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 784

S.B. No. 1251

AN ACT relating to authorized charges and terms for certain consumer loans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 342.002, Finance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) Interest under the scheduled installment earnings method or true daily earnings method may not be compounded.

SECTION 2. The heading to Section 342.201, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 342.201. MAXIMUM INTEREST CHARGE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEE.

SECTION 3. Section 342.201, Finance Code, is amended by amending Subsection (f) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(f) A loan contract under this subchapter may provide for an administrative fee in an amount not to exceed $25 for a loan of more than $1,000 or $20 for a loan of $1,000 or less. The administrative fee is considered earned when the loan is made or refinanced and is not subject to refund. An administrative fee is not interest. A lender refinancing the loan may not contract for or receive an administrative fee for the loan more than once in any 180-day period, except that if the loan has an interest charge authorized by Subsection (e) the lender may not contract for or receive the administrative fee more than once in any 365-day period. One dollar of each administrative fee may be deposited with the comptroller for use in carrying out the finance commission's responsibilities under Section 11.3055.

(g) The finance commission by rule may prescribe a reasonable maximum amount of an administrative fee for a loan contract under this subchapter that is greater than the maximum amount authorized by this section for the amount of the loan.

SECTION 4. Section 342.252, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 342.252. ALTERNATE CHARGES [INTEREST CHARGE]. (a) Instead of the charges authorized by Section 342.201, a loan contract may provide for:

(1) on a cash advance of less than $30, an acquisition charge that is not more than $1 for each $5 of the cash advance;

(2) on a cash advance equal to or more than $30 but not more than $100:

(A) an acquisition charge that is not more than the amount equal to one-tenth of the amount of the cash advance; and

(B) an installment account handling charge that is not more than:

(i) $3 a month if the cash advance is not more than $35;