Baylor College of Medicine, if a contract between Baylor College of Medicine and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is in effect under Section 61.092.

SECTION 15. The board of regents of the Texas Tech University System, as soon as practicable following the effective date of this Act consistent with available resources, any required approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the goal of minimizing unnecessary disruption of existing programs, students, faculty, and staff in El Paso, shall:

(1) establish the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso in accordance with this Act; and

(2) assign existing programs and facilities of the system located in El Paso County to the center to the extent those programs and facilities support the mission and purposes of the center.

SECTION 16. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, 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.

(b) If this Act does not receive a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, Section 13 of this Act does not take effect.

Passed the Senate on March 13, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 1; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 7, 2013: Yeas 29, Nays 0; passed the House, with amendment, on April 30, 2013: Yeas 141, Nays 3, one present not voting.

Approved May 18, 2013.

Effective May 18, 2013.

CHAPTER 66
S.B. No. 162
AN ACT
relating to the occupational licensing of spouses of members of the military and the eligibility requirements for certain occupational licenses issued to applicants with military experience.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 55, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 55. LICENSING OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, MILITARY VETERANS, [LICENSE WHILE ON MILITARY DUTY] AND FOR MILITARY SPOUSES [SPOUSE]

SECTION 2. Section 55.001, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (1-a), (1-b), and (1-c) to read as follows:

(1-a) “Military service member” means a person who is currently serving in the armed forces of the United States, in a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including the National Guard, or in the state military service of any state.

(1-b) “Military spouse” means a person who is married to a military service member who is currently on active duty.

(1-c) “Military veteran” means a person who has served in the army, navy, air force, marine corps, or coast guard of the United States, or in an auxiliary service of one of those branches of the armed forces.

SECTION 3. Chapter 55, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Sections 55.005, 55.006, and 55.007 to read as follows:
Sec. 55.005. EXPEDITED LICENSE PROCEDURE FOR MILITARY SPOUSES. (a) A state agency that issues a license shall, as soon as practicable after a military spouse files an application for a license:

(1) process the application; and

(2) issue a license to a qualified military spouse applicant who holds a current license issued by another jurisdiction that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements in this state.

(b) A license issued under this section may not be a provisional license and must confer the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as a license not issued under this section.

Sec. 55.006. RENEWAL OF EXPEDITED LICENSE ISSUED TO MILITARY SPOUSE. (a) As soon as practicable after a state agency issues a license under Section 55.005, the state agency shall determine the requirements for the license holder to renew the license.

(b) The state agency shall notify the license holder of the requirements for renewing the license in writing or by electronic means.

(c) A license issued under Section 55.005 has the term established by law or state agency rule, or a term of 12 months from the date the license is issued, whichever term is longer.

Sec. 55.007. LICENSE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EXPERIENCE. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a state agency that issues a license shall, with respect to an applicant who is a military service member or military veteran, credit verified military service, training, or education toward the licensing requirements, other than an examination requirement, for a license issued by the state agency.

(b) The state agency shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

(c) Rules adopted under this section may not apply to an applicant who:

(1) holds a restricted license issued by another jurisdiction; or

(2) has an unacceptable criminal history according to the law applicable to the state agency.

SECTION 4. Subchapter G, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1701.315 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.315. LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONS WITH MILITARY SPECIAL FORCES TRAINING. (a) In this section, "special forces" means a special forces component of the United States armed forces, including:

(1) the United States Army Special Forces;

(2) the United States Navy SEALs;

(3) the United States Air Force Pararescue;

(4) the United States Marine Corps Force Reconnaissance; and

(5) any other component of the United States Special Operations Command approved by the commission.

(b) The commission shall adopt rules to allow an applicant to qualify to take an examination described by Section 1701.304 if the applicant:

(1) has served in the special forces;

(2) has successfully completed a special forces training course and provides to the commission documentation verifying completion of the course;

(3) completes a supplemental peace officer training course; and

(4) completes any other training required by the commission after the commission has reviewed the applicant's military training.

(c) Commission rules adopted under Subsection (b) shall include rules:

(1) to determine acceptable forms of documentation that satisfy the requirements of Subsection (b);

(2) under which the commission may waive any other license requirement for an applicant described by Subsection (b) based on other relevant military training the
applicant has received, as determined by the commission, including intelligence or medical training; and

(3) to establish an expedited application process for an applicant described by Subsection (b).

(d) The commission shall review the content of the training course for each special forces component described by Subsection (a) and in adopting rules under Subsection (b) specify the training requirements an applicant who has completed that training course must complete and the training requirements from which an applicant who has completed that training course is exempt.

SECTION 5. (a) Sections 55.005, 55.006, and 55.007, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, apply only to an application for a license filed with a state agency as defined by Section 55.001, Occupations Code, on or after March 1, 2014. An application for a license filed before March 1, 2014, is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) Each state agency as defined by Section 55.001, Occupations Code, shall adopt rules under Sections 55.005, 55.006, and 55.007, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2014.

(c) Section 1701.315, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an application for a license filed with the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education on or after March 1, 2014. An application for a license filed before March 1, 2014, is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(d) The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education shall adopt rules under Section 1701.315, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2014.

SECTION 6. 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 2, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved May 18, 2013.

Effective May 18, 2013.

CHAPTER 67

S.B. No. 166

AN ACT
relating to the use by certain health care providers of electronically readable information from a driver's license or personal identification certificate.

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

SECTION 1. Section 521.126, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (i), (j), and (k) and adding Subsection (l) to read as follows:

(i) The prohibition provided by Subsection (b) does not apply to a health care provider or hospital that accesses, uses, compiles, or maintains a database of the information to provide health care services to the individual who holds the driver's license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification certificate.

(j) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a health care provider or hospital may not sell, transfer, or otherwise disseminate the information described by Subsection (i) to a third party for any purpose, including any marketing, advertising, or promotional activities. A health care provider or hospital that obtains information described by Subsection (i) may transfer the information only in accordance with the rules implementing the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act.