

JIM WRIGHT, *CHAIRMAN*
 CHRISTI CRADDICK, *COMMISSIONER*
 WAYNE CHRISTIAN, *COMMISSIONER*



ALEXANDER C. SCHOCH, *GENERAL COUNSEL*

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Jim Wright
 Commissioner Christi Craddick
 Commissioner Wayne Christian

FROM: Olivia Alland, Attorney
 Office of General Counsel

THROUGH: Alexander C. Schoch, General Counsel
 Alyson Chensasky, Assistant General Counsel

DATE: November 18, 2025

SUBJECT: Item 241: Adoption of Repeal and New Rules
 16 TAC §§ 9.14, 13.76, and 14.2015 (Military Licensing & Fee Exemptions)
 and corresponding amendments.

November 18, 2025		
Approved	Denied	Abstain
DS		
DS		
DS		

Attached is Staff's recommendation to repeal 16 Texas Administrative Code §§ 9.14, 13.76, and 14.2015, relating to Military Fee Exemptions, and to adopt new rules for Military Licensing and Fee Exemptions, including conforming amendments to certain provisions in Chapters 9, 13, and 14.

The adoption implements House Bill 5629 and Senate Bill 1818 (89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025), which amended Texas Occupations Code Chapter 55 to require state agencies to implement rules relating to licensing accommodations and fee exemptions for military service members, military spouses, and military veterans.

On August 19, 2025, the Commission approved publication of the proposed repeal, new rules, and conforming amendments in the Texas Register. The proposal was published in the September 5th issue (50 TexReg 5801), and the public comment period closed on October 6, 2025. No comments were received. Staff recommends adopting the rules and corresponding amendments without changes.

cc: Wei Wang, Executive Director
 Mark Evarts, Acting Director, Oversight and Safety Division
 Karley Rudynski, Director, Alternative Fuels Safety Department

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1 The Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) adopts the repeal of §9.14, relating to Military
2 Fee Exemption, new §9.14, relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption, and amendments to §§9.2,
3 9.10, 9.13, and 9.20 relating to Definitions, Rules Examination, General Installers and Repairman
4 Exemption, and Dispenser Operations Certificate Exemption, without changes to the proposed text as
5 published in the September 5, 2025, issue of the Texas Register (50 TexReg 5801); the rule text will not
6 be republished. The Commission received no comments on the proposal. The Commission adopts the
7 repeal, new rule, and amendments pursuant to House Bill (HB) 5629 (89th Legislature, Regular Session,
8 2025) which amended Occupations Code §§55.004, 55.0041, 55.0042, 55.005, and 55.009 and Senate
9 Bill 1818 (89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025) which amended Occupations Code §§55.004 and
10 55.0041.

11 HB 5629 amends current law governing state agencies that issue occupational licenses to military
12 service members, military veterans, and military spouses, establishing new and streamlined requirements.
13 The legislation amends provisions in §55.004, Occupations Code, related to the issuance of alternative
14 licenses, and in §55.0041, Occupations Code, related to the recognition of out-of-state licenses. Pursuant
15 to HB 5629, a state agency must issue an alternative license to a military service member, military
16 veteran, or military spouse if the applicant either (1) holds a current license issued by another state that is
17 similar in scope of practice to the state agency's license and is in good standing with the out-of-state
18 licensing authority, or (2) held a license with the state agency within the preceding five years. Similarly,
19 HB 5629 requires a state agency to recognize an out-of-state license for a military service member or a
20 military spouse who (1) holds a current out-of-state license that is similar in scope of practice to the state
21 agency's license, (2) is in good standing with the out-of-state licensing authority, and (3) submits certain
22 required information in an affidavit. The legislation also clarifies the definition of what qualifies as "good
23 standing", decreases application processing timelines from 30 business days to 10 business days, and
24 requires a state agency to maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member,
25 military veteran, or military spouse to whom the agency issued a license and to publish such information
26 on its website. Lastly, HB 5629 requires a state agency issuing an occupational license to waive license
27 application and examination fees for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.
28 The Commission already complies with the requirement to waive license application and examination
29 fees but streamlines those requirements in response to the legislation.

30 The Commission's Alternative Fuels Safety Department (AFS) issues LP-gas licenses to
31 applicants that meet the requirements of Chapter 9 to perform LP-gas activities in Texas. AFS also issues
32 certifications to qualified individuals, known as certificate holders or certified individuals, allowing them
33 to perform certain LP-gas activities in Texas. Certificate holders must be in compliance with all
34 applicable continuing education and training requirements, renewal requirements, and must be employed

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1 by an LP-gas licensee in accordance with §9.8(a) of this title (relating to Requirements and Application
2 for a New Certificate).

3 Section 55.001 of the Occupations Code defines “license” as “a license, certificate, registration,
4 permit, or other form of authorization required by law or a state agency rule that must be obtained by an
5 individual to engage in a particular business.” Accordingly, Chapter 55 and HB 5629 only apply to
6 licenses, as defined by §55.001, that are issued to individuals. AFS typically issues LP-gas licenses to
7 registered business entities, but on rare occasions may issue an LP-gas license to an individual operating
8 as a sole proprietorship. Certifications, on the other hand, are issued only to individuals employed by an
9 LP-gas licensee, provided they meet the applicable examination, continuing education, and renewal
10 requirements in Chapter 9. Therefore, an LP-gas license issued to a sole proprietor and certifications
11 issued under Chapter 9 are “licenses” under §55.001 and are subject to the provisions of HB 5629 and this
12 rulemaking. New §9.14(a)(2) adopts the term “license” as defined in §55.001, Occupations Code, and
13 therefore, usage of the word “license” in §9.14 refers specifically to LP-gas licenses issued to individuals
14 as sole proprietors and to certifications issued to individuals.

15 The Commission adopts amendments to §9.2(5)(F), the definition of “certificate holder”, to
16 clarify that an individual who holds an alternative license or the recognition of an out-of-state license
17 pursuant to §9.14 meets the definition of certificate holder.

18 New §9.14 includes retitling the rule to more accurately reflect its subject matter, reorganizing the
19 rule for greater clarity in light of the changes to military fee exemption requirements under HB 5629, and
20 incorporating new provisions related to alternative licensing and the recognition of out-of-state licenses as
21 required by HB 5629.

22 New §9.14(a)(1)-(2) clarifies that §9.14 applies to licenses, military service members, military
23 veterans, or military spouses as those terms are defined in §55.001, Occupations Code. New §9.14(a)(3),
24 in accordance with HB 5629, states that an individual is considered to be in good standing with another
25 state’s licensing authority if the individual holds a license that is current and has not been suspended,
26 revoked, or voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct; has not been
27 disciplined with the other state’s licensing authority; and is not currently under investigation by the other
28 state’s licensing authority for unprofessional conduct. AFS will conduct reviews of each application
29 submitted under new §9.14 to determine whether the applicant is in good standing with the other state’s
30 licensing authority. Additionally, §9.14(a)(4) states that the Commission shall maintain a record of
31 complaints made against a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse to whom AFS
32 issues an alternative license or out-of-state recognition of a license and shall publish at least quarterly the
33 complaint information on its website.

34 To implement this requirement, the Commission is creating a page on its website to post a list of

1 any complaints it receives against the military service members that hold an alternative license or an out-
2 of-state license recognized by the Commission. The website will be updated at least quarterly. The
3 Commission is in the process of creating a new Form 16V for applications for an alternative license and a
4 new Form 16M for applications for recognition of an out-of-state license.

5 New subsection §9.14(b) contains the provisions for alternative licensing pursuant to HB 5629.
6 Military service members, military veterans, and military spouses may apply for an alternative license by
7 submitting a completed Form 16V to AFS. There are two avenues by which an applicant may receive an
8 alternative license from AFS. First, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission
9 if the applicant holds a current license issued by another state's licensing authority that is similar in scope
10 of practice to the requested LP-gas license issued by AFS and the applicant is in good standing with the
11 other state's licensing authority. The applicant must submit a completed Form 16V, which includes as an
12 attachment a copy of the current LP-gas license issued in the other state, a copy of military documentation
13 reflecting the applicant's status as a military service member or military veteran, and any other
14 documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the
15 marriage license must also be attached. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with all required
16 attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form and attachments are
17 completed as required, will determine whether the other state's license is similar in scope of practice to
18 the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS, and conduct due diligence to determine whether the
19 applicant is in good standing with the other state's licensing authority.

20 Second, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission if the applicant
21 held an LP-gas license from the Commission within the five years preceding the application date. Those
22 applicants are still required to complete Form 16V and must attach military documentation and a marriage
23 license, if applicable. Regardless of which avenue an applicant uses to pursue an alternative license under
24 §9.14, AFS will issue the alternative license within 10 business days of the application date if the
25 application meets the requirements of §9.14 and HB 5629.

26 New §9.14(c) contains the provisions for the recognition of an out-of-state license pursuant to HB
27 5629. Military service members and military spouses are eligible to apply for the recognition of an out-of-
28 state license by submitting a complete Form 16M to AFS. An applicant may receive the recognition of an
29 out-of-state license from the Commission if the applicant holds a current license issued by another state's
30 licensing authority that is similar in scope of practice to the requested LP-gas license issued by AFS. The
31 applicant must submit a completed Form 16M, which includes as an attachment a copy of the current LP-
32 gas license issued in the other state, a copy of military orders showing relocation to Texas, and any other
33 documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the marriage
34 license must also be attached. Finally, the affidavit included in Form 16M must be signed and notarized

1 by the applicant, affirming under penalty of perjury that: (1) the applicant is the person described and
2 identified in the application; (2) all statements in the application are true, correct, and complete; (3) the
3 applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in this state and will not perform
4 outside of that scope of practice; and (4) the applicant is in good standing in the state in which the
5 applicant holds or has held an applicable license. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with all required
6 attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form, attachments, and affidavit
7 are completed as required and will determine whether the other state's license is similar in scope of
8 practice to the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS. AFS will recognize the out-of-state
9 license within 10 business days of the application date if the application meets the requirements of §9.14
10 and HB 5629.

11 New §9.14(d) contains provisions for the exemption of license application and examination fees
12 for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses. A service member may apply for
13 exemption from a license application fee or examination fee by filing a completed Form 35 with AFS,
14 including a copy of applicable military records and a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-
15 issued identification card. If the exemption is granted by AFS, the applicant should attach the exemption
16 to the application for a license or examination to serve as notice of payment.

17 New §9.14(e) contains provisions related to renewals of licenses. Alternative licenses and out-of-
18 state recognitions are still required to submit renewals pursuant to Chapter 9 and are required to pay
19 renewal fees. However, a military service member who fails to renew a license because the individual was
20 on active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS. Additionally, a military
21 service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional time to complete continuing
22 education requirements or any other requirement related to the renewal of the license.

23 The Commission adopts amendments to §§9.10(c)(4)(E), §9.13(g) and 9.20(8) to rename the title
24 of §9.14 and to remove language related to military licensing fee exemptions as all rule language related
25 to fee exemptions will be covered by §9.14(d).

26 The Commission adopts the repeal, new rule, and amendments under Texas Occupations Code,
27 Chapter 55, which authorizes the Commission to promulgate rules pertaining to the issuance of
28 occupational licenses to military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

29 Statutory authority: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources Code,
30 §113.051.

31 Cross reference to statute: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources
32 Code, Chapter 113.

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§9.2. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in any adopted NFPA pamphlets, the following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) - (4) (No change.)

(5) Certificate holder--An individual:

(A) - (C) (No change.)

(D) who holds a current examination exemption certificate pursuant to §9.13 of this title (relating to General Installers and Repairman Exemption); ~~[or]~~

(E) who holds a current Dispenser Operations certificate exemption pursuant to §9.20 of this title (relating to Dispenser Operations Certificate Exemption); or

(F) who holds an alternative license or a recognition by AFS of an out-of-state license pursuant to §9.14 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption) and is in compliance with renewal requirements in §9.9 of this chapter (relating to Requirements for Certificate Holder Renewal).

(6) - (52) (No change.)

§9.10. Rules Examination.

(a) - (b) (No change.)

(c) An individual who files LPG Form 16 and pays the applicable nonrefundable examination fee may take the rules examination

(1) - (3) (No change.)

(4) Exam fees.

(A) - (D) (No change.)

(E) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the examination fee pursuant to the requirements in §9.14 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal, training, or continuing education fees specified in §9.9 of this title (relating to Requirements for Certificate Holder Renewal, §9.51 of this title, and §9.52 of this title (relating to Training and Continuing Education).~~

(F) (No change.)

(5) - (6) (No change.)

(d) - (h) (No change.)

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§9.13. General Installers and Repairman Exemption.

(a) - (f) (No change.)

(g) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the original registration fee pursuant to the requirements in §9.14 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal fees specified in §9.9 of this title.~~

§9.14. Military Licensing and Fee Exemption.

(a) General Provisions.

(1) Applicability. This section applies to military service members, military veterans, or military spouses, as specified in this section and as those terms are defined in Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55.

(2) License. For purposes of this section, a "license" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by this chapter that must be obtained by an individual to engage in a particular business.

(3) Determination of Good Standing. For purposes of this section, an individual is in good standing with another state's licensing authority if the individual:

(A) holds a license that is current, has not been suspended or revoked, and has not been voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct;

(B) has not been disciplined by the licensing authority with respect to the license or individual's practice of the occupation for which the license is issued; and

(C) is not currently under investigation by the licensing authority for unprofessional conduct related to the individual's license or profession.

(4) Complaints and Reporting. The Commission shall maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse to whom AFS issues a license or who holds an out-of-state license the Commission recognizes. The Commission shall publish at least quarterly on its website the complaint information, including a general description of the disposition of each complaint.

(b) Alternative Licensing.

(1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse may apply to be issued an LP-gas license by the Commission if the military service member, military veteran, or military spouse:

(A) holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that

1 is similar in scope of practice to an LP-gas license issued by the Commission and is in good standing with
2 the other state's licensing authority; or

3 (B) within the five years preceding the application date held an LP-gas license
4 issued by the Commission.

5 (2) An application for an alternative license shall be made by submitting a completed
6 Form 16V to AFS. The applicant must attach the following to Form 16V:

7 (A) a copy of the applicant's current LP-gas license issued by the licensing
8 authority of another state, if applicable;

9 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's military status as a
10 military service member or military veteran;

11 (C) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
12 license; and

13 (D) any other information that may be required by AFS.

14 (3) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with required attachments, AFS shall:

15 (A) confirm with the other state that the military service member, military
16 veteran, or military spouse is currently licensed and in good standing for the relevant business or
17 occupation; and

18 (B) conduct a comparison of the other state's licensing requirements, statutes,
19 and rules with AFS's licensing requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of
20 practice.

21 (4) AFS shall issue the alternative LP-gas license not later than the 10th business day
22 after the date AFS receives an application for an alternative license in compliance with this subsection
23 and section 55.004, Occupations Code (relating to Alternative Licensing for Military Service Members,
24 Military Veterans, and Military Spouses).

25 (c) Recognition of Out-of-State Licensing.

26 (1) A military service member or military spouse may apply to engage in an LP-gas
27 activity for which an LP-gas license is required by the Commission if the military service member or
28 military spouse holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that is similar in
29 scope of practice to an LP-gas license issued by the Commission. A military service member or military
30 spouse must receive a written recognition from AFS pursuant to this subsection before engaging in an LP-
31 gas activity.

32 (2) An application for the recognition of an out-of-state LP-gas license shall be made by
33 submitting a completed Form 16M to AFS. The applicant must be in good standing with the other state's
34 licensing authority for Form 16M to be approved. The applicant must attach the following to a Form

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1 16M:

2 (A) a copy of the applicant's current LP-gas license issued by the licensing
3 authority of another state;

4 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's status as a military
5 service member or a military spouse;

6 (C) a copy of the applicant's military orders showing relocation to this state;

7 (D) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
8 license; and

9 (E) any other information that may be required by AFS.

10 (3) Form 16M includes an affidavit that must be notarized by the applicant affirming
11 under penalty of perjury that:

12 (A) the applicant is the person described and identified in the application;

13 (B) all statements in the application are true, correct, and complete;

14 (C) the applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in
15 this state and will not perform outside of that scope of practice; and

16 (D) the applicant is in good standing in the state in which the applicant holds an
17 applicable license.

18 (4) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16M with required attachments, AFS shall conduct
19 a comparison of the other state's license requirements, statutes, and rules with AFS's licensing
20 requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of practice.

21 (5) Not later than the 10th business day after AFS receives a completed Form 16M with
22 required attachments, AFS will notify the applicant that:

23 (A) AFS recognizes the applicant's out-of-state license and will provide a written
24 recognition document;

25 (B) the application is incomplete, noting the area of deficiency; or

26 (C) AFS is unable to recognize the applicant's out-of-state license because the
27 Commission does not issue a license similar in scope of practice to the applicant's out-of-state license.

28 (6) If a military service member or military spouse is granted the written recognition of
29 an out-of-state LP-gas license by the Commission, the following conditions apply:

30 (A) The military service member or military spouse shall comply with all other
31 laws and regulations applicable to the LP-gas license in this state;

32 (B) The military service member or military spouse may only engage in the LP-
33 gas activity authorized by the written recognition for the period during which the military service member

1 is stationed at a military installation in Texas, or, with respect to a military spouse, the military service
2 member to whom the spouse is married is stationed at a military installation in Texas; and

3 (C) In the event of a divorce or similar event that affects a person's status as a
4 military spouse, the former spouse may continue to engage in the business or occupation under the
5 authority of this section until the third anniversary of the date the spouse submitted the Form 16M.

6 (d) Fee Exemptions.

7 (1) The Commission shall waive the license application and examination fees for a
8 military service member, military veteran, or military spouse. To receive a military fee exemption, an
9 applicant for a fee exemption shall file with the Commission a Form 35 and any documentation required
10 by this subsection.

11 (2) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall submit the
12 following documentation with Form 35:

13 (A) a copy of any military records showing the applicant's dates of service; and

14 (B) a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-issued identification card.

15 (3) AFS shall review Form 35 and required documentation to determine if the
16 requirements for the fee exemption have been met and shall notify the applicant of the determination in
17 writing within 10 days.

18 (A) If all requirements have been met, the applicant may submit the application
19 for license or examination and attach a copy of the written notice granting military fee exemption with the
20 application to serve as notice of payment.

21 (B) If AFS has notified the applicant that the application is incomplete, the
22 applicant shall provide any requested information or documentation within 10 days of the date of the
23 notice.

24 (e) Renewals.

25 (1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse who receives an
26 alternative license or recognition by AFS of an out-of-state license remains subject to all other renewal
27 requirements in this chapter, including all applicable fees and training or continuing education courses.

28 (2) A service member who fails to timely renew a license because the individual was on
29 active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS.

30 (3) A military service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional
31 time to complete:

32 (A) any continuing education requirements; and

33 (B) any other requirement related to the renewal of the military service member's
34 license.

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§9.20. Dispenser Operations Certificate Exemption.

An individual may perform work and directly supervise LP-gas activities requiring contact with LP-gas if the individual is granted the Dispenser Operations Certificate Exemption. The exemption may be obtained by completing the Dispensing Propane Safely course, including examination, and complying with paragraph (1) of this section or by completing a PERC-based training course and examination in accordance with paragraph (2) of this section.

(1) - (7) (No change.)

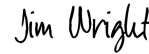
(8) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the original registration fee pursuant to the requirements in §9.14 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal fees specified in §9.9 of this title. fees.~~

This agency hereby certifies that the rules as adopted have been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be a valid exercise of the agency's legal authority.

Issued in Austin, Texas, on September 18, 2025.

Filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on September 18, 2025.

DocuSigned by:



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Jim Wright, Chairman

DocuSigned by:



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Christi Craddick, Commissioner

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Wayne Christian, Commissioner

ATTEST: Signed by:



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Secretary of the Commission

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Olivia Alland

Attorney
Office of General Counsel
Railroad Commission of Texas

1 The Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) adopts the repeal of §13.76, relating to
2 Military Fee Exemption, new §13.76, relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption, and amendments
3 to §§13.61 and 13.70, relating to License Categories, Container Manufacturer Registration, Fees, and
4 Application for Licenses, Manufacturer Registrations, and Renewals; and Examination and Exempt
5 Registration Requirements and Renewals, without changes to the proposed text as published in the
6 September 5, 2025, issue of the Texas Register (50 TexReg 5806); the rule text will not be republished.
7 The Commission received no comments on the proposal. The Commission adopts the repeal, new rule,
8 and amendments pursuant to House Bill (HB) 5629 (89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025) which
9 amended Occupations Code §§55.004, 55.0041, 55.0042, 55.005, and 55.009 and Senate Bill 1818 (89th
10 Legislature, Regular Session, 2025) which amended Occupations Code §§55.004 and 55.0041.

11 HB 5629 amends current law governing state agencies that issue occupational licenses to military
12 service members, military veterans, and military spouses, establishing new and streamlined requirements.
13 The legislation amends provisions in §55.004, Occupations Code, related to the issuance of alternative
14 licenses, and in §55.0041, Occupations Code, related to the recognition of out-of-state licenses. Pursuant
15 to HB 5629, a state agency must issue an alternative license to a military service member, military
16 veteran, or military spouse if the applicant either (1) holds a current license issued by another state that is
17 similar in scope of practice to the state agency's license and is in good standing with the out-of-state
18 licensing authority, or (2) held a license with the state agency within the preceding five years. Similarly,
19 HB 5629 requires a state agency to recognize an out-of-state license for a military service member or a
20 military spouse who (1) holds a current out-of-state license that is similar in scope of practice to the state
21 agency's license, (2) is in good standing with the out-of-state licensing authority, and (3) submits certain
22 required information in an affidavit. The legislation also clarifies the definition of what qualifies as "good
23 standing", decreases application processing timelines from 30 business days to 10 business days, and
24 requires a state agency to maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member,
25 military veteran, or military spouse to whom the agency issued a license and to publish such information
26 on its website. Lastly, HB 5629 requires a state agency issuing an occupational license to waive license
27 application and examination fees for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.
28 The Commission already complies with the requirement to waive license application and examination
29 fees but streamlines those requirements in response to the legislation.

30 The Commission's Alternative Fuels Safety Department (AFS) issues CNG licenses to applicants
31 that meet the requirements of Chapter 13 to perform CNG activities in Texas. AFS also issues
32 certifications to qualified individuals, known as certificate holders or certified individuals, allowing them
33 to perform certain CNG activities in Texas. Certificate holders must be in compliance with all applicable

1 continuing education and training requirements, renewal requirements, and must be employed by a CNG
2 licensee in accordance with §13.70(a).

3 Section 55.001 of the Occupations Code defines “license” as “a license, certificate, registration,
4 permit, or other form of authorization required by law or a state agency rule that must be obtained by an
5 individual to engage in a particular business.” Accordingly, Chapter 55 and HB 5629 only apply to
6 licenses, as defined by §55.001, that are issued to individuals. AFS typically issues CNG licenses to
7 registered business entities, but on rare occasions may issue a CNG license to an individual operating as a
8 sole proprietorship. Certifications, on the other hand, are issued only to individuals employed by a CNG
9 licensee, provided they meet the applicable examination, continuing education, and renewal requirements
10 in Chapter 13. Therefore, a CNG license issued to a sole proprietor and certifications issued under
11 Chapter 13 are “licenses” under §55.001 and are subject to the provisions of HB 5629 and this
12 rulemaking. New §13.76(a)(2) adopts the term “license” as defined in §55.001, Occupations Code, and
13 therefore, usage of the word “license” in §13.76 refers specifically to CNG licenses issued to individuals
14 as sole proprietors and to certifications issued to individuals.

15 New §13.76 includes retitling the rule to more accurately reflect its subject matter, reorganizing
16 the rule for greater clarity in light of the changes to military fee exemption requirements under HB 5629,
17 and incorporating new provisions related to alternative licensing and the recognition of out-of-state
18 licenses as required by HB 5629.

19 New §13.76(a)(1)-(2) clarifies that the rule applies to licenses, military service members, military
20 veterans, or military spouses as those terms are defined in §55.001, Occupations Code. New §13.76(a)(3),
21 in accordance with HB 5629, states that an individual is considered to be in good standing with another
22 state’s licensing authority if the individual holds a license that is current and has not been suspended,
23 revoked, or voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct; has not been
24 disciplined with the other state’s licensing authority; and is not currently under investigation by the other
25 state’s licensing authority for unprofessional conduct. AFS will conduct reviews of each application
26 submitted under new §13.76 to determine whether the applicant is in good standing with the other state’s
27 licensing authority. Additionally, §13.76(a)(4) states that the Commission shall maintain a record of
28 complaints made against a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse to whom AFS
29 issues an alternative license or out-of-state recognition of a license and shall publish at least quarterly the
30 complaint information on its website.

31 To implement this requirement, the Commission is creating a page on its website to post a list of
32 any complaints it receives against the military service members that hold an alternative license or an out-
33 of-state license recognized by the Commission. The website will be updated at least quarterly. The
34 Commission is in the process of creating a new Form 16V for applications for an alternative license and a

1 new Form 16M for applications for recognition of an out-of-state license.

2 New §13.76(b) contains the provisions for alternative licensing pursuant to HB 5629. Military
3 service members, military veterans, and military spouses may apply for an alternative license by
4 submitting a completed Form 16V to AFS. There are two avenues by which an applicant may receive an
5 alternative license from AFS. First, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission
6 if the applicant holds a current license issued by another state's licensing authority that is similar in scope
7 of practice to the requested CNG license issued by AFS and the applicant is in good standing with the
8 other state's licensing authority. The applicant must submit a completed Form 16V which includes as an
9 attachment a copy of the current CNG license issued in the other state, a copy of military documentation
10 reflecting the applicant's status as a military service member or military veteran, and any other
11 documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the
12 marriage license must also be attached. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with all required
13 attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form and attachments are
14 completed as required, will determine whether the other state's license is similar in scope of practice to
15 the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS, and conduct due diligence to determine whether the
16 applicant is in good standing with the other state's licensing authority.

17 Second, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission if the applicant
18 held a CNG license from the Commission within the five years preceding the application date. Those
19 applicants are still required to complete Form 16V and must attach military documentation and a marriage
20 license, if applicable. Regardless of which avenue an applicant uses to pursue an alternative license under
21 §13.76, AFS will issue the alternative license within 10 business days of the application date if the
22 application meets the requirements of §13.76 and HB 5629.

23 New §13.76(c) contains the provisions for the recognition of an out-of-state license pursuant to
24 HB 5629. Military service members and military spouses are eligible to apply for the recognition of an
25 out-of-state license by submitting a complete Form 16M to AFS. An applicant may receive the
26 recognition of an out-of-state license from the Commission if the applicant holds a current license issued
27 by another state's licensing authority that is similar in scope of practice to the requested CNG license
28 issued by AFS. The applicant must submit a completed Form 16M which includes as an attachment a
29 copy of the current CNG license issued in the other state, a copy of military orders showing relocation to
30 Texas, and any other documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a
31 copy of the marriage license must also be attached. Finally, the affidavit included in Form 16M must be
32 signed and notarized by the applicant, affirming under penalty of perjury that: (1) the applicant is the
33 person described and identified in the application; (2) all statements in the application are true, correct,
34 and complete; (3) the applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in this state

1 and will not perform outside of that scope of practice; and (4) the applicant is in good standing in the state
2 in which the applicant holds or has held an applicable license. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V
3 with all required attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form,
4 attachments, and affidavit are completed as required and will determine whether the other state's license
5 is similar in scope of practice to the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS. AFS will recognize
6 the out-of-state license within 10 business days of the application date if the application meets the
7 requirements of new §13.76 and HB 5629.

8 New §13.76(d) contains provisions for the exemption of license application and examination fees
9 for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses. A service member may apply for
10 exemption from a license application fee or examination fee by filing a completed Form 35 with AFS,
11 including a copy of applicable military records and a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-
12 issued identification card. If the exemption is granted by AFS, the applicant should attach the exemption
13 to the application for a license or examination to serve as notice of payment.

14 New §13.76(e) contains provisions related to renewals of licenses. Alternative licenses and out-
15 of-state recognitions are still required to submit renewals pursuant to Chapter 13 and are required to pay
16 renewal fees. However, a military service member who fails to renew a license because the individual was
17 on active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS. Additionally, a military
18 service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional time to complete continuing
19 education requirements or any other requirement related to the renewal of the license.

20 The Commission adopts amendments to §§13.61(d), 13.70(b)(3)(iv), and 13.70(g)(8) to rename
21 the title of §13.76 and to remove language related to military licensing fee exemptions as all rule language
22 related to fee exemptions will be covered by new §13.76(d).

23 The Commission adopts the repeal, new rule, and amendments under Texas Occupations Code,
24 Chapter 55, which authorizes the Commission to promulgate rules pertaining to the issuance of
25 occupational licenses to military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

26 Statutory authority: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources Code,
27 §§116.012.

28 Cross reference to statute: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources
29 Code, Chapter 116.

30
31 §13.61. License Categories, Container Manufacturer Registration, Fees, and Application for Licenses,
32 Manufacturer Registrations, and Renewals.

33 (a) - (c) (No change.)

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(d) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the original license fee specified in subsection (b) of this section pursuant to the requirements in §13.76 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from the renewal or transport registration fees specified in subsection (p) of this section and §13.69 of this title (relating to Registration and Transfer of CNG Cargo Tanks or Delivery Units).~~

(e) - (r) (No change.)

§13.70. Examination and Exempt Registration Requirements and Renewals.

(a) Requirements and application for a new certificate.

(1) In addition to NFPA 52 §§1.4.3 and 4.2, and NFPA 55 §4.7, no person shall perform work, directly supervise CNG activities, or be employed in any capacity requiring contact with CNG, unless that individual is employed by a licensee and:

(A) is a certificate holder who is in compliance with renewal requirements in subsection (h) of this section;

(B) is a trainee who complies with subsection (f) of section; ~~[or]~~

(C) holds a current examination exemption pursuant to subsection (g) of this section; or

(D) has an alternative license or a recognition by AFS of an out-of-state license pursuant to § 13.76 of this chapter (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption) and is in compliance with renewal requirements in subsection (h) of this section.

(b) Rules examination.

(1) - (2) (No change.)

(3) An individual who files CNG Form 2016 and pays the applicable nonrefundable examination fee may take the rules examination.

(A) - (B) (No change.)

(C) Exam fees.

(i) - (iii) (No change.)

(iv) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the examination fee pursuant to the requirements in §13.76 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal fees specified in subsection (h) of this section.~~

(v) (No change.)

(D) - (E) (No change.)

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(c) - (f) (No change.)

(g) General installers and repairmen exemption.

(1) - (7) (No change.)

(8) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the original registration fee pursuant to the requirements in §13.76 of this title. ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal fees specified in subsection (h) of this section.~~

(h) (No change.)

§13.76. Military Licensing and Fee Exemption.

(a) General Provisions.

(1) Applicability. This section applies to military service members, military veterans, or military spouses, as specified in this section and as those terms are defined in Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55.

(2) License. For purposes of this section, a “license” means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by this chapter that must be obtained by an individual to engage in a particular business.

(3) Determination of Good Standing. For purposes of this section, an individual is in good standing with another state's licensing authority if the individual:

(A) holds a license that is current, has not been suspended or revoked, and has not been voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct;

(B) has not been disciplined by the licensing authority with respect to the license or individual's practice of the occupation for which the license is issued; and

(C) is not currently under investigation by the licensing authority for unprofessional conduct related to the individual's license or profession.

(4) Complaints and Reporting. The Commission shall maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse to whom AFS issues a license or who holds an out-of-state license the Commission recognizes. The Commission shall publish at least quarterly on its website the complaint information, including a general description of the disposition of each complaint.

(b) Alternative Licensing.

(1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse may apply to be issued a CNG license by the Commission if the military service member, military veteran, or military spouse:

1 (A) holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that
2 is similar in scope of practice to a CNG license issued by the Commission and is in good standing with
3 the other state's licensing authority; or

4 (B) within the five years preceding the application date held a CNG license
5 issued by the Commission.

6 (2) An application for an alternative license shall be made by submitting a completed
7 Form 16V to AFS. The applicant must attach the following to Form 16V:

8 (A) a copy of the applicant's current CNG license issued by the licensing
9 authority of another state, if applicable;

10 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's military status as a
11 military service member or military veteran;

12 (C) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
13 license; and

14 (D) any other information that may be required by AFS.

15 (3) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with required attachments, AFS shall:

16 (A) confirm with the other state that the military service member, military
17 veteran, or military spouse is currently licensed and in good standing for the relevant business or
18 occupation; and

19 (B) conduct a comparison of the other state's licensing requirements, statutes,
20 and rules with AFS's licensing requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of
21 practice.

22 (4) AFS shall issue the alternative CNG license not later than the 10th business day after
23 the date AFS receives an application for an alternative license in compliance with this subsection and
24 section 55.004, Occupations Code (relating to Alternative Licensing for Military Service Members,
25 Military Veterans, and Military Spouses).

26 (c) Recognition of Out-of-State Licensing.

27 (1) A military service member or military spouse may apply to engage in a CNG activity
28 for which a CNG license is required by the Commission if the military service member or military spouse
29 holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that is similar in scope of practice
30 to a CNG license issued by the Commission. A military service member or military spouse must receive a
31 written recognition from AFS pursuant to this subsection before engaging in a CNG activity.

32 (2) An application for the recognition of an out-of-state CNG license shall be made by
33 submitting a completed Form 16M to AFS. The applicant must be in good standing with the other state's
34 licensing authority for Form 16M to be approved. The applicant must attach the following to a Form

1 16M:

2 (A) a copy of the applicant's current CNG license issued by the licensing
3 authority of another state;

4 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's status as a military
5 service member or a military spouse;

6 (C) a copy of the applicant's military orders showing relocation to this state;

7 (D) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
8 license; and

9 (E) any other information that may be required by AFS.

10 (3) Form 16M includes an affidavit that must be notarized by the applicant affirming
11 under penalty of perjury that:

12 (A) the applicant is the person described and identified in the application;

13 (B) all statements in the application are true, correct, and complete;

14 (C) the applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in
15 this state and will not perform outside of that scope of practice; and

16 (D) the applicant is in good standing in the state in which the applicant holds an
17 applicable license.

18 (4) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16M with required attachments, AFS shall conduct
19 a comparison of the other state's license requirements, statutes, and rules with AFS's licensing
20 requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of practice.

21 (5) Not later than the 10th business day after AFS receives a completed Form 16M with
22 required attachments, AFS will notify the applicant that:

23 (A) AFS recognizes the applicant's out-of-state license and will provide a written
24 recognition document;

25 (B) the application is incomplete, noting the area of deficiency; or

26 (C) AFS is unable to recognize the applicant's out-of-state license because the
27 Commission does not issue a license similar in scope of practice to the applicant's out-of-state license.

28 (6) If a military service member or military spouse is granted the written recognition of
29 an out-of-state CNG license by the Commission, the following conditions apply:

30 (A) The military service member or military spouse shall comply with all other
31 laws and regulations applicable to the CNG license in this state;

32 (B) The military service member or military spouse may only engage in the CNG
33 activity authorized by the written recognition for the period during which the military service member is
34 stationed at a military installation in Texas, or, with respect to a military spouse, the military service

1 member to whom the spouse is married is stationed at a military installation in Texas; and

2 (C) In the event of a divorce or similar event that affects a person's status as a
3 military spouse, the former spouse may continue to engage in the business or occupation under the
4 authority of this section until the third anniversary of the date the spouse submitted the Form 16M.

5 (d) Fee Exemptions.

6 (1) The Commission shall waive the license application and examination fees for a
7 military service member, military veteran, or military spouse. To receive a military fee exemption, an
8 applicant for a fee exemption shall file with the Commission a Form 35 and any documentation required
9 by this subsection.

10 (2) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall submit the
11 following documentation with Form 35:

12 (A) a copy of any military records showing the applicant's dates of service; and

13 (B) a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-issued identification card.

14 (3) AFS shall review Form 35 and required documentation to determine if the
15 requirements for the fee exemption have been met and shall notify the applicant of the determination in
16 writing within 10 days.

17 (A) If all requirements have been met, the applicant may submit the application
18 for license or examination and attach a copy of the written notice granting military fee exemption with the
19 application to serve as notice of payment.

20 (B) If AFS has notified the applicant that the application is incomplete, the
21 applicant shall provide any requested information or documentation within 10 days of the date of the
22 notice.

23 (e) Renewals.

24 (1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse who receives an
25 alternative license or recognition by AFS of an out of state license remains subject to all other renewal
26 requirements in this chapter, including all applicable fees and training or continuing education courses.

27 (2) A service member who fails to timely renew a license because the individual was on
28 active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS.

29 (3) A military service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional
30 time to complete:

31 (A) any continuing education requirements; and

32 (B) any other requirement related to the renewal of the military service member's
33 license.

34

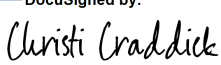
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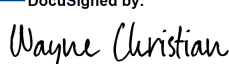
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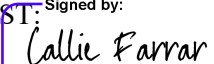
1
2 This agency hereby certifies that the rules as adopted have been reviewed by legal counsel and
3 found to be a valid exercise of the agency's legal authority.
4 Issued in Austin, Texas, on November 18, 2025.
5 Filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on November 18, 2025.

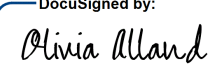
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Jim Wright, Chairman

DocuSigned by:

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Christi Craddick, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:

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Wayne Christian, Commissioner

ATTEST: Signed by:

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Secretary of the Commission

DocuSigned by:

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Olivia Alland
Attorney
Office of General Counsel
Railroad Commission of Texas

1 The Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) adopts the repeal of §14.2015, relating to
2 Military Fee Exemption, new §14.2015, relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption, and
3 amendments to §§14.2013 and 14.2019, relating to License Categories, Container Manufacturer
4 Registration, Fees, and Application for Licenses, Manufacturer Registrations, and Renewals; and
5 Examination and Requirements and Renewals, without changes to the proposed text as published in the
6 September 5, 2025, issue of the Texas Register (50 TexReg 5811); the rule text will not be republished.
7 The Commission received no comments on the proposal. The Commission adopts the repeal, new rule,
8 and amendments pursuant to House Bill (HB) 5629 (89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025) which
9 amended Occupations Code §§55.004, 55.0041, 55.0042, 55.005, and 55.009 and Senate Bill 1818 (89th
10 Legislature, Regular Session, 2025) which amended Occupations Code §§55.004 and 55.0041.

11 HB 5629 amends current law governing state agencies that issue occupational licenses to military
12 service members, military veterans, and military spouses, establishing new and streamlined requirements.
13 The legislation amends provisions in §55.004, Occupations Code, related to the issuance of alternative
14 licenses, and in §55.0041, Occupations Code, related to the recognition of out-of-state licenses. Pursuant
15 to HB 5629, a state agency must issue an alternative license to a military service member, military
16 veteran, or military spouse if the applicant either (1) holds a current license issued by another state that is
17 similar in scope of practice to the state agency's license and is in good standing with the out-of-state
18 licensing authority, or (2) held a license with the state agency within the preceding five years. Similarly,
19 HB 5629 requires a state agency to recognize an out-of-state license for a military service member or a
20 military spouse who (1) holds a current out-of-state license that is similar in scope of practice to the state
21 agency's license, (2) is in good standing with the out-of-state licensing authority, and (3) submits certain
22 required information in an affidavit. The legislation also clarifies the definition of what qualifies as "good
23 standing", decreases application processing timelines from 30 business days to 10 business days, and
24 requires a state agency to maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member,
25 military veteran, or military spouse to whom the agency issued a license and to publish such information
26 on its website. Lastly, HB 5629 requires a state agency issuing an occupational license to waive license
27 application and examination fees for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.
28 The Commission already complies with the requirement to waive license application and examination
29 fees but streamlines those requirements in response to the legislation.

30 The Commission's Alternative Fuels Safety Department (AFS) issues LNG licenses to applicants
31 that meet the requirements of Chapter 14 to perform LNG activities in Texas. AFS also issues
32 certifications to qualified individuals, known as certificate holders or certified individuals, allowing them
33 to perform certain LNG activities in Texas. Certificate holders must be in compliance with all applicable

1 continuing education and training requirements, renewal requirements, must be employed by an LNG
2 licensee in accordance with §14.2019(a).

3 Section 55.001 of the Occupations Code defines "license" as "a license, certificate, registration,
4 permit, or other form of authorization required by law or a state agency rule that must be obtained by an
5 individual to engage in a particular business." Accordingly, Chapter 55 and HB 5629 only apply to
6 licenses, as defined by §55.001, that are issued to individuals. AFS typically issues LNG licenses to
7 registered business entities, but on rare occasions may issue an LNG license to an individual operating as
8 a sole proprietorship. Certifications, on the other hand, are issued only to individuals employed by an
9 LNG licensee, provided they meet the applicable examination, continuing education, and renewal
10 requirements in Chapter 14. Therefore, an LNG license issued to a sole proprietor and certifications
11 issued under Chapter 14 are "licenses" under §55.001 and are subject to the provisions of HB 5629 and
12 this rulemaking. New §14.2015(a)(2) adopts the term "license" as defined in §55.001, Occupations Code,
13 and therefore, usage of the word "license" in §14.2015 refers specifically to LNG licenses issued to
14 individuals as sole proprietors and to certifications issued to individuals.

15 New §14.2015 includes retitling the rule to more accurately reflect its subject matter,
16 reorganizing the rule for greater clarity in light of the changes to military fee exemption requirements
17 under HB 5629, and incorporating new provisions related to alternative licensing and the recognition of
18 out-of-state licenses as required by HB 5629.

19 New §14.2015(a)(1)-(2) clarifies that the rule applies to licenses, military service members,
20 military veterans, or military spouses as those terms are defined in §55.001, Occupations Code.
21 Subsection (a)(3), in accordance with HB 5629, states that an individual is considered to be in good
22 standing with another state's licensing authority if the individual holds a license that is current and has not
23 been suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct;
24 has not been disciplined with the other state's licensing authority; and is not currently under investigation
25 by the other state's licensing authority for unprofessional conduct. AFS will conduct reviews of each
26 application submitted under new §14.2015 to determine whether the applicant is in good standing with
27 the other state's licensing authority. Additionally, subsection (a)(4) states that the Commission shall
28 maintain a record of complaints made against a military service member, military veteran, or military
29 spouse to whom AFS issues an alternative license or out-of-state recognition of a license and shall publish
30 at least quarterly the complaint information on its website.

31 To implement this requirement, the Commission is creating a page on its website to post a list of
32 any complaints it receives against the military service members that hold an alternative license or an out-
33 of-state license recognized by the Commission. The website will be updated at least quarterly. The

Commission is in the process of creating a new Form 16V for applications for an alternative license and a new Form 16M for applications for recognition of an out-of-state license.

New §14.2015(b) contains the provisions for alternative licensing pursuant to HB 5629. Military service members, military veterans, and military spouses may apply for an alternative license by submitting a completed Form 16V to AFS. There are two avenues by which an applicant may receive an alternative license from AFS. First, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission if the applicant holds a current license issued by another state's licensing authority that is similar in scope of practice to the requested LNG license issued by AFS and the applicant is in good standing with the other state's licensing authority. The applicant must submit a completed Form 16V which includes as an attachment a copy of the current LNG license issued in the other state, a copy of military documentation reflecting the applicant's status as a military service member or military veteran, and any other documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the marriage license must also be attached. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with all required attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form and attachments are completed as required, will determine whether the other state's license is similar in scope of practice to the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS, and conduct due diligence to determine whether the applicant is in good standing with the other state's licensing authority.

Second, an applicant may receive an alternative license from the Commission if the applicant held an LNG license from the Commission within the five years preceding the application date. Those applicants are still required to complete Form 16V and must attach military documentation and a marriage license, if applicable. Regardless of which avenue an applicant uses to pursue an alternative license under §14.2015, AFS will issue the alternative license within 10 business days of the application date if the application meets the requirements of §14.2015 and HB 5629.

New §14.2015(c) contains the provisions for the recognition of an out-of-state license pursuant to HB 5629. Military service members and military spouses are eligible to apply for the recognition of an out-of-state license by submitting a complete Form 16M to AFS. An applicant may receive the recognition of an out-of-state license from the Commission if the applicant holds a current license issued by another state's licensing authority that is similar in scope of practice to the requested LNG license issued by AFS. The applicant must submit a completed Form 16M which includes as an attachment a copy of the current LNG license issued in the other state, a copy of military orders showing relocation to Texas, and any other documentation that may be requested by AFS. If the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the marriage license must also be attached. Finally, the affidavit included in Form 16M must be signed and notarized by the applicant, affirming under penalty of perjury that: (1) the applicant is the person described and identified in the application; (2) all statements in the application are true, correct,

1 and complete; (3) the applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in this state
2 and will not perform outside of that scope of practice; and (4) the applicant is in good standing in the state
3 in which the applicant holds or has held an applicable license. Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V
4 with all required attachments, AFS will conduct a review of the application to ensure the form,
5 attachments, and affidavit are completed as required and will determine whether the other state's license is
6 similar in scope of practice to the requested alternative license to be issued by AFS. AFS will recognize
7 the out-of-state license within 10 business days of the application date if the application meets the
8 requirements of §14.2015 and HB 5629.

9 New §14.2015(d) contains provisions for the exemption of license application and examination
10 fees for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses. A service member may apply
11 for exemption from a license application fee or examination fee by filing a completed Form 35 with AFS,
12 including a copy of applicable military records and a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-
13 issued identification card. If the exemption is granted by AFS, the applicant should attach the exemption
14 to the application for a license or examination to serve as notice of payment.

15 New §14.2015(e) contains provisions related to renewals of licenses. Alternative licenses and out-
16 of-state recognitions are still required to submit renewals pursuant to Chapter 14 and are required to pay
17 renewal fees. However, a military service member who fails to renew a license because the individual was
18 on active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS. Additionally, a military
19 service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional time to complete continuing
20 education requirements or any other requirement related to the renewal of the license.

21 The Commission adopts amendments to §§14.2013(c) and 14.2019(b)(3)(C)(iv) to rename the
22 title of §14.2015 and to remove language related to military licensing fee exemptions as all rule language
23 related to fee exemptions is covered by new §14.2015(d).

24 The Commission adopts the repeal, new rule, and amendments under Texas Occupations Code,
25 Chapter 55, which authorizes the Commission to promulgate rules pertaining to the issuance of
26 occupational licenses to military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

27 Statutory authority: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources Code,
28 §§116.012.

29 Cross reference to statute: Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, and Texas Natural Resources
30 Code, Chapter 116.

§14.2013. License Categories, Container Manufacturer Registration, Fees, and Application for Licenses, Manufacturer Registrations, and Renewals.

(a) - (b) (No change.)

(c) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall be exempt from the original license fee specified in subsection (b) of this section pursuant to the requirements in §14.2015 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal or transport registration fees specified in §14.2014 and §14.2704 of this title (relating to Application for License or Manufacturer Registration (New and Renewal); and Registration and Transfer of LNG Transports), respectively.~~

(d) (No change.)

§14.2015. Military Licensing and Fee Exemption.

(a) General Provisions.

(1) Applicability. This section applies to military service members, military veterans, or military spouses, as specified in this section and as those terms are defined in Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55.

(2) License. For purposes of this section, a "license" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by this chapter that must be obtained by an individual to engage in a particular business.

(3) Determination of Good Standing. For purposes of this section, an individual is in good standing with another state's licensing authority if the individual:

(A) holds a license that is current, has not been suspended or revoked, and has not been voluntarily surrendered during an investigation for unprofessional conduct;

(B) has not been disciplined by the licensing authority with respect to the license or individual's practice of the occupation for which the license is issued; and

(C) is not currently under investigation by the licensing authority for unprofessional conduct related to the individual's license or profession.

(4) Complaints and Reporting. The Commission shall maintain a record of each complaint made against a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse to whom AFS issues a license or who holds an out-of-state license the Commission recognizes. The Commission shall publish at least quarterly on its website the complaint information, including a general description of the disposition of each complaint.

(b) Alternative Licensing.

1 (1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse may apply to be
2 issued an LNG license by the Commission if the military service member, military veteran, or military
3 spouse:

4 (A) holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that
5 is similar in scope of practice to an LNG license issued by the Commission and is in good standing with
6 the other state's licensing authority; or

7 (B) within the five years preceding the application date held an LNG license
8 issued by the Commission.

9 (2) An application for an alternative license shall be made by submitting a completed
10 Form 16V to AFS. The applicant must attach the following to Form 16V:

11 (A) a copy of the applicant's current LNG license issued by the licensing
12 authority of another state, if applicable;

13 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's military status as a
14 military service member or military veteran;

15 (C) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
16 license; and

17 (D) any other information that may be required by AFS.

18 (3) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16V with required attachments, AFS shall:

19 (A) confirm with the other state that the military service member, military
20 veteran, or military spouse is currently licensed and in good standing for the relevant business or
21 occupation; and

22 (B) conduct a comparison of the other state's licensing requirements, statutes, and
23 rules with AFS's licensing requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of practice.

24 (4) AFS shall issue the alternative LNG license not later than the 10th business day after
25 the date AFS receives an application for an alternative license in compliance with this subsection and
26 section 55.004, Occupations Code (relating to Alternative Licensing for Military Service Members,
27 Military Veterans, and Military Spouses).

28 (c) Recognition of Out-of-State Licensing.

29 (1) A military service member or military spouse may apply to engage in an LNG activity
30 for which an LNG license is required by the Commission if the military service member or military
31 spouse holds a current license issued by the licensing authority of another state that is similar in scope of
32 practice to an LNG license issued by the Commission. A military service member or military spouse must
33 receive a written recognition from AFS pursuant to this subsection before engaging in an LNG activity.

34 (2) An application for the recognition of an out-of-state LNG license shall be made by

1 submitting a completed Form 16M to AFS. The applicant must be in good standing with the other state's
2 licensing authority for Form 16M to be approved. The applicant must attach the following to a Form
3 16M:

4 (A) a copy of the applicant's current LNG license issued by the licensing
5 authority of another state;

6 (B) a copy of military documentation showing the applicant's status as a military
7 service member or a military spouse;

8 (C) a copy of the applicant's military orders showing relocation to this state;

9 (D) if the applicant is a military spouse, a copy of the military spouse's marriage
10 license; and

11 (E) any other information that may be required by AFS.

12 (3) Form 16M includes an affidavit that must be notarized by the applicant affirming
13 under penalty of perjury that:

14 (A) the applicant is the person described and identified in the application;

15 (B) all statements in the application are true, correct, and complete;

16 (C) the applicant understands the scope of practice for the applicable license in
17 this state and will not perform outside of that scope of practice; and

18 (D) the applicant is in good standing in the state in which the applicant holds an
19 applicable license.

20 (4) Upon receipt of a completed Form 16M with required attachments, AFS shall conduct
21 a comparison of the other state's license requirements, statutes, and rules with AFS's licensing
22 requirements to determine if the requirements are similar in scope of practice.

23 (5) Not later than the 10th business day after AFS receives a completed Form 16M with
24 required attachments, AFS will notify the applicant that:

25 (A) AFS recognizes the applicant's out-of-state license and will provide a written
26 recognition document;

27 (B) the application is incomplete, noting the area of deficiency; or

28 (C) AFS is unable to recognize the applicant's out-of-state license because the
29 Commission does not issue a license similar in scope of practice to the applicant's out-of-state license.

30 (6) If a military service member or military spouse is granted the written recognition of
31 an out-of-state LNG license by the Commission, the following conditions apply:

32 (A) The military service member or military spouse shall comply with all other
33 laws and regulations applicable to the LNG license in this state;

34 (B) The military service member or military spouse may only engage in the LNG

1 activity authorized by the written recognition for the period during which the military service member is
2 stationed at a military installation in Texas, or, with respect to a military spouse, the military service
3 member to whom the spouse is married is stationed at a military installation in Texas; and

4 (C) In the event of a divorce or similar event that affects a person's status as a
5 military spouse, the former spouse may continue to engage in the business or occupation under the
6 authority of this section until the third anniversary of the date the spouse submitted the Form 16M.

7 (d) Fee Exemptions.

8 (1) The Commission shall waive the license application and examination fees for a
9 military service member, military veteran, or military spouse. To receive a military fee exemption, an
10 applicant for a fee exemption shall file with the Commission a Form 35 and any documentation required
11 by this subsection.

12 (2) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall submit the
13 following documentation with Form 35:

14 (A) a copy of any military records showing the applicant's dates of service; and

15 (B) a copy of the applicant's driver's license or state-issued identification card.

16 (3) AFS shall review Form 35 and required documentation to determine if the
17 requirements for the fee exemption have been met and shall notify the applicant of the determination in
18 writing within 10 days.

19 (A) If all requirements have been met, the applicant may submit the application
20 for license or examination and attach a copy of the written notice granting military fee exemption with the
21 application to serve as notice of payment.

22 (B) If AFS has notified the applicant that the application is incomplete, the
23 applicant shall provide any requested information or documentation within 10 days of the date of the
24 notice.

25 (e) Renewals.

26 (1) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse who receives an
27 alternative license or recognition by AFS of an out-of-state license remains subject to all other renewal
28 requirements in this chapter, including all applicable fees and training or continuing education courses.

29 (2) A service member who fails to timely renew a license because the individual was on
30 active duty is exempt from any increased fee or penalty imposed by AFS.

31 (3) A military service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional
32 time to complete:

33 (A) any continuing education requirements; and

34 (B) any other requirement related to the renewal of the military service member's

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1 license.

3 §14.2019. Examination Requirements and Renewals.

4 (a) Requirements and application for a new certificate.

5 (1) In addition to NFPA 52 §§4.1 and 4.2 and 59A §14.9, no person shall perform work,
6 directly supervise LNG activities, or be employed in any capacity requiring contact with LNG unless that
7 individual:

8 (A) is a certificate holder who is in compliance with renewal requirements in
9 subsection (g) of this section and is employed by a licensee; [Ø]

10 (B) is a trainee who complies with subsection (f) of this section; or

11 (C) has an alternative license or a recognition by AFS of an out-of-state license
12 pursuant to §14.2015 of this chapter (relating to Military Licensing and Fee Exemption) and is in
13 compliance with renewal requirements in subsection (g) of this section.

14 (b) Rules examination.

15 (1) - (2) (No change.)

16 (3) An individual who files LNG Form 2016 and pays the applicable nonrefundable
17 examination fee may take the rules examination.

18 (A) - (B) (No change.)

19 (C) Exam fees.

20 (i) - (iii) (No change.)

21 (iv) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall
22 be exempt from the examination fee pursuant to §14.2015 of this title (relating to Military Licensing and
23 Fee Exemption). ~~An individual who receives a military fee exemption is not exempt from renewal fees~~
24 ~~specified in subsection (g) of this section.~~

25 (v) (No change.)

26 (D) - (E) (No change.)

27 (c) - (g) (No change.)

29 This agency hereby certifies that the rules as adopted have been reviewed by legal counsel and
30 found to be a valid exercise of the agency's legal authority.

31 Issued in Austin, Texas, on November 18, 2025.

32 Filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on November 18, 2025.

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