

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2471

By: Lowe (Dick)

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to agriculture; amending 2 O.S. 2011,  
9 Section 3-82, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 239,  
10 O.S.L. 2017 (2 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 3-82), which  
11 relates to pesticides; modifying certain license  
12 expiration and renewal dates; and providing an  
13 effective date.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2011, Section 3-82, as  
16 amended by Section 1, Chapter 239, O.S.L. 2017 (2 O.S. Supp. 2020,  
17 Section 3-82), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 3-82. A. LICENSE REQUIRED - 1. It shall be unlawful  
19 for any person to act, operate, or do business or advertise as a  
20 commercial, noncommercial, certified applicator, temporary certified  
21 applicator, service technician, or private applicator unless the  
22 person has obtained a valid applicator's license issued by the State  
23 Board of Agriculture for the category of pesticide application in  
24 which the person is engaged.

1           2. A license may be issued by the Board in any category of  
2 pesticide application if the applicant qualifies and the applicant  
3 is limited to the category of pesticide application named on the  
4 license. The Board may establish categories of pesticide  
5 application as necessary. Licenses shall be issued upon application  
6 to the Board on a form prescribed by the Board. The application  
7 shall contain information regarding the applicant's qualifications,  
8 proposed operations, and other information as specified by the  
9 Board.

10           3. a. An aerial license shall not be issued or be valid  
11 unless the applicant files with the Board a copy of a  
12 valid document issued by the Federal Aviation  
13 Administration showing that the person is qualified to  
14 operate or supervise the operation of an aircraft  
15 conducting agricultural operations. Applicants for an  
16 aerial license and pilots working under a license may  
17 be subject to a complete and thorough background  
18 examination.

19           b. The Board shall promulgate rules regarding aerial  
20 applicators and applications consistent with federal  
21 law and shall solicit the assistance of the Federal  
22 Aviation Agency in the enforcement of this subsection.

23           4. Each business location shall require a separate license and  
24 separate certified applicator except that a certified applicator for

1 a noncommercial business location may also serve as the certified  
2 applicator for one commercial business location.

3 5. A license shall not be issued for the category of pesticide  
4 application of any applicant or representative who has a temporary  
5 certification.

6 B. CERTIFICATION REQUIRED - 1. A license shall be issued only  
7 after satisfactory completion of the certification standards by the  
8 person who shall be the certified applicator under the license.  
9 Temporary certified applicators do not qualify as the certified  
10 applicator for a license, nor may they act as a certified  
11 applicator. The Board shall deny the application for certification,  
12 recertification, issuance, or renewal of a certificate or license  
13 for a failure to show proper qualification under the rules or for  
14 violations of any provisions of this section. A certificate in any  
15 category shall be valid for five (5) years unless suspended,  
16 canceled, or revoked by the Board or until recertification is  
17 required for the category, and may be renewed after successful  
18 completion of recertification requirements. The Board may require  
19 certified applicators to be recertified once in a five-year period.

20 2. A certified service technician identification shall be  
21 issued upon application and completion of certification standards  
22 determined by the Board. Temporary certified applicators may  
23 qualify as a certified service technician. No person shall act, do  
24 business as, or advertise as a service technician unless the person

1 has met all the qualifications and standards as required by the  
2 Board. The service technicians' identification shall be issued in  
3 the name of the licensed entity. The licensee shall ensure that the  
4 service technician identification is returned to the Board upon  
5 termination of the employee. A service technician identification  
6 shall be valid for a period of five (5) years unless suspended,  
7 canceled, or revoked by the Board, until recertification is required  
8 by the Board, or until the service technician leaves the employ of  
9 the licensed entity. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food,  
10 and Forestry may issue a service technician identification upon  
11 completion of the following:

- 12 a. a determination is made by the Department that the  
13 applicant has successfully completed the written  
14 examination,
- 15 b. the licensed entity provides a completed service  
16 technician identification application form at the time  
17 of testing, and
- 18 c. all appropriate fees are paid at the time of testing.

19 3. Each license, except for private applicators, shall expire  
20 ~~on the 31st day of December following issuance or renewal,~~ dates  
21 established by the Department in administrative rules and may be  
22 renewed for the ensuing calendar year, without penalty or  
23 reexamination, if a properly completed application is filed with the  
24 Board ~~not later than the 1st day of January of each year~~ on a date

1 established by the Department. If the application is not received  
2 by ~~January 1~~ the due date, a penalty of twice the amount of the  
3 renewal fee shall be charged for renewal of the license. If the  
4 application is not received by ~~February 1~~ within thirty (30) days  
5 following the due date, an additional one-hundred-dollar penalty  
6 shall be paid prior to license renewal.

7 All private applicator licenses are in effect for five (5) years  
8 and may be renewed by application after completion of a continuing  
9 education program or written exam approved by the Board.

10 C. The following fees shall be paid to the Board:

11 1. A fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each category of  
12 pesticide application shall be paid to the Board for the issuance or  
13 renewal of a commercial applicator business license. Not more than  
14 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) total category fees shall be charged  
15 annually to any business location of an applicator;

16 2. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the Board  
17 for each written examination conducted by the Board;

18 3. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the Board  
19 for each practical examination conducted by the Board;

20 4. A fee of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) shall be paid to the Board  
21 for the issuance or renewal of a private applicator's license;

22 5. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the Board  
23 for the issuance or renewal of a noncommercial business license.

24 Not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) total category

1 fees shall be charged annually to any noncommercial business  
2 location of an applicator;

3 6. A fee of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) shall be paid to the Board  
4 for the issuance or renewal of service technician identification;

5 7. A fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) shall be paid to the Board for  
6 the issuance of duplicate licenses or certificates or transfer of  
7 service technician identification;

8 8. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the Board  
9 for each recertification procedure; and

10 9. A fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be paid to the  
11 Board for each reciprocal certification procedure for applicator  
12 certifications.

13 D. All fees shall be deposited in the State Department of  
14 Agriculture Revolving Fund.

15 E. Fees shall be paid to the Board prior to the processing of  
16 any application.

17 F. Failure to pay any fee identified with licenses, permits,  
18 pesticide registrations, or certification shall require the Board to  
19 deny the application.

20 G. INSURANCE REQUIRED - 1. The Board shall not issue a  
21 commercial applicator's license until the applicant has furnished  
22 evidence of an insurance policy or certificate by an insurer or  
23 broker authorized to do business in this state insuring the  
24 commercial applicator and any agents against liability resulting

1 from the operations of the commercial applicator. The insurance  
2 shall not be applied to damage or injury to agricultural crops,  
3 plants, or land being worked upon by the commercial applicator.

4 2. The amount of liability shall not be less than that set by  
5 the Board for each property damage arising out of actual use of any  
6 pesticide. The liability shall be maintained at not less than that  
7 sum at all times during the licensing period. The Board shall be  
8 notified fifteen (15) days prior to any reduction in liability.

9 3. If the furnished liability becomes unsatisfactory, the  
10 applicant shall immediately execute new liability upon notice from  
11 the Board. If new liability is not immediately obtained, the Board  
12 shall, upon notice, cancel the license. It shall be unlawful for  
13 the person to engage in the business of applying pesticides until  
14 the liability is brought into compliance and the license reinstated.

15 H. DAMAGES - 1. Prior to filing an action against an  
16 applicator for damages to growing crops or plants, any person  
17 alleging damages to growing crops or plants shall:

18 a. within ninety (90) calendar days of the date that the  
19 alleged damages occurred or prior to the time that  
20 twenty-five percent (25%) of the allegedly damaged  
21 crops or plants are harvested, whichever occurs first,  
22 file a written complaint statement with the Department  
23 regarding the alleged damages, and  
24

1           b.    between the date of filing of the written complaint  
2                    pursuant to subparagraph a of this paragraph and the  
3                    date harvesting or destruction of the allegedly  
4                    damaged crops or plants occurs, allow the applicator  
5                    and the representatives of the applicator reasonable  
6                    access to the property to inspect and take samples of  
7                    the allegedly damaged crops or plants during  
8                    reasonable hours. The representatives of the  
9                    applicator may include, but not be limited to, crop  
10                  consultants, bondsmen, and insurers. Nothing in this  
11                  subparagraph shall limit in any way the harvesting or  
12                  destruction of the allegedly damaged crops or plants  
13                  in the ordinary course of business and practice.

14           2. Any person failing to comply with paragraph 1 of this  
15 subsection shall be barred from filing an action for damages against  
16 the applicator.

17           I. PERMIT REQUIRED - 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to  
18 sell, offer for sale, or distribute within this state any restricted  
19 use pesticide without first obtaining a restricted use pesticide  
20 dealer's permit issued by the Board.

21           2. A permit may be issued by the Board in any category of  
22 pesticide sales if the applicant qualifies under the provisions of  
23 this section and the applicant is limited to the category of  
24



1 pesticide sales named on the permit. The Board may establish  
2 categories of pesticide sales as necessary.

3 3. The permit shall be issued only upon application on a form  
4 prescribed by the Board and the application shall contain  
5 information regarding the applicant's proposed operation and other  
6 information as specified by the Board.

7 4. Each business location engaged in the sale or distribution  
8 of restricted use pesticides shall require a separate permit.

9 5. The annual permit fee for a restricted use pesticide dealer  
10 permit shall be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each location.

11 6. The Board may require a certified applicator to be present  
12 at any location where designated restricted use pesticide sales  
13 occur.

14 J. PESTICIDE REGISTRATION REQUIRED - 1. Every pesticide or  
15 device distributed, sold, or offered for sale within this state or  
16 delivered for transportation or transported in intrastate or  
17 interstate commerce shall be registered with the Board.

18 2. The registrant shall file with the Board a statement  
19 including, but not limited to:

- 20 a. the name and address of the registrant and the name  
21 and address of the person whose name shall appear on  
22 the label, if other than the registrant,  
23 b. the name of the pesticide or device,

24

- 1 c. a complete copy of the labeling accompanying the  
2 pesticide or device and a statement of all claims to  
3 be made for it, and directions for use, and  
4 d. if requested by the Board, a full description of the  
5 tests made and the results upon which the claims are  
6 based. In renewing a registration, a statement shall  
7 be required only with respect to information which is  
8 different from the information furnished when the  
9 pesticide or device was last registered.

10 3. Each registrant shall pay to the Board an annual  
11 registration fee of Two Hundred Ten Dollars (\$210.00) for each  
12 pesticide or device label registered. These fees shall be used by  
13 the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry for  
14 purposes of administering pesticide management programs. A portion  
15 of these fees, in the amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars  
16 (\$300,000.00) annually, shall be dedicated for conducting programs  
17 for unwanted pesticide disposal. This amount shall be deposited  
18 into the State Department of Agriculture Unwanted Pesticide Disposal  
19 Fund and shall be dedicated for this use only.

20 4. The Board may require the submission of the complete formula  
21 of any pesticide. Trade secrets and formulations submitted by the  
22 registrant may be kept confidential. If it appears to the Board  
23 that the composition of the pesticide is adequate to warrant the  
24 proposed claims and if the pesticide, its labeling, and other

1 material required to be submitted comply with the requirements of  
2 this section, then the pesticide shall be registered.

3 5. If it does not appear to the Board that the pesticide or  
4 device is adequate to warrant the proposed claims for it or if the  
5 pesticide or device, its labeling, and other material required to be  
6 submitted do not comply with the provisions of this section, it  
7 shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies in the pesticide,  
8 device, labeling, or other material required and afford the  
9 applicant an opportunity to make the necessary corrections. If the  
10 applicant claims, in writing, that the corrections are not necessary  
11 and requests in writing a hearing regarding the registration of the  
12 pesticide or device, the Board shall provide an opportunity for a  
13 hearing before refusing to issue the registration. In order to  
14 protect the public, the Board may at any time cancel the  
15 registration of a product or device. In no event, shall  
16 registration of a pesticide or device be considered as a defense or  
17 excuse for the commission of any offense prohibited under this  
18 section.

19 6. The Board may require that pesticides be distinctively  
20 colored or discolored to protect the public health.

21 7. Registration shall not be required in the case of a  
22 pesticide shipped from one plant or place within this state to  
23 another plant or place within this state that is operated by the  
24 same person.

1 K. CATEGORIES OF LICENSES AND PERMITS - The Board may establish  
2 any category of license for pesticide application or any category of  
3 permit for pesticide sales.

4 L. PERMIT AND PESTICIDE REGISTRATION EXPIRATION - 1. All  
5 permits for pesticide sales shall be issued for a period of one (1)  
6 year and the permits shall be renewed annually and shall expire on a  
7 date determined by the Board. A permit may be renewed for the  
8 ensuing year, without penalty, if a properly completed application  
9 is filed with the Board not later than the fifteenth day of the  
10 month first following the date of expiration. If the application is  
11 not received by that date, a penalty of twice the amount of the  
12 renewal fee shall be charged for renewal of the permit.

13 2. All pesticide registrations shall be issued for a period of  
14 one (1) year. The registration shall be renewed annually and shall  
15 expire on a date to be determined by the Board. Pesticide  
16 registrations may be renewed for the ensuing year, without penalty,  
17 if a properly completed application is filed with the Board not  
18 later than the fifteenth day of the month first following the date  
19 of expiration. If the application is not received by that date, a  
20 penalty of twice the amount of the renewal fee shall be charged for  
21 renewal of the pesticide registration.

22 M. PESTICIDE PRODUCING ESTABLISHMENTS - 1. Definitions as used  
23 in this subsection:  
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- 1           a. "establishment" means any site where a pesticide  
2           product, active ingredient or device is produced  
3           within the state,
- 4           b. "produce" means to manufacture, prepare, propagate,  
5           compound or process any pesticide or to package,  
6           repackage, label, relabel or otherwise change the  
7           container of any pesticide or device, and
- 8           c. "producer" means any person who produces,  
9           manufactures, prepares, compounds, propagates or  
10           processes any active ingredient, pesticide, or device  
11           as used in producing a pesticide.

12           2. It shall be unlawful for any person to produce within this  
13           state any pesticide, active ingredient or device without first  
14           obtaining a pesticide producer establishment permit issued by the  
15           Board.

16           3. The permit shall be issued only upon application on a form  
17           prescribed by the Board. The application shall contain information  
18           regarding the proposed operation of the applicant and other  
19           information as specified by the Board. If at any time there is a  
20           change of the information provided in or on the application for a  
21           pesticide producer establishment permit, the producer must notify  
22           the Board in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of the change.

23           4. The producer shall file a statement with the Board including  
24           but not limited to:

- a. the name and address of the company,
- b. the name and address of the establishment as well as the physical location, if different than the mailing address,
- c. the name of any pesticide, active ingredient, or device, and
- d. the name and address and other pertinent contact information for the responsible party.

5. All permits for pesticide producer establishments shall be issued for a period of one (1) year and shall be renewed annually. All permits shall expire on June 30 each year and may be renewed without penalty if a properly completed application is filed with the Board not later than the fifteenth day of the month first following the date of expiration. If the application is not received by that date, a penalty of twice the amount of the renewal fee shall be charged for renewal of the permit.

6. Each pesticide producer establishment location engaged in the production of pesticides, active ingredients or devices shall require a separate permit.

7. The annual permit fee for a pesticide producer establishment shall be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each location.

8. If requested by the Board, a complete copy of all labeling, Material Safety Data Sheets, technical information associated with the pesticide, active ingredient, or device and a statement of all

1 claims to be made as well as directions and use must be submitted to  
2 the Board.

3 9. In order to determine compliance with state and federal  
4 laws, the Board may request a full disclosure of inventory records,  
5 sales and distribution records, and any other information deemed  
6 necessary by the Board.

7 10. Every producer shall keep accurate records pertaining to  
8 pesticide, active ingredient, or device production and distribution  
9 as required by the Board. The records of the producer shall be kept  
10 intact at the principal producing location in this state for at  
11 least two (2) years after the date of production and distribution  
12 and copies shall be furnished to any authorized agent of the Board,  
13 immediately upon request in person, at any time during the regular  
14 business hours of the producer. Copies of records shall be  
15 furnished to any authorized agent of the Board within seven (7)  
16 working days of a written request, in summary form, by mail, fax, e-  
17 mail, website, or any other electronic media customarily used.

18 N. COMPLAINT RESOLUTION - Upon receipt of a written complaint,  
19 the Board shall notify the person filing the complaint in writing of  
20 its receipt and status within two (2) working days. The person whom  
21 the complaint is filed against shall also be notified within two (2)  
22 working days. Notification that a complaint has been filed may also  
23 be given to the landowner or operator when appropriate. The  
24 resolution of a complaint is the completion of the appropriate

1 administrative, jurisdictional, or legal remedies to the extent  
2 possible by the Department. The complainant shall be notified in  
3 writing within seven (7) working days after resolution of the  
4 complaint.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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