

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

HOUSE BILL 2060

By: Roberts

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to professions and occupations;
creating the Oklahoma Landscaper Act; providing
definitions; requiring landscaper license; Oklahoma
Board of Agriculture may promulgate administrative
rules; amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 3-82, which
relates pesticide dealer's permit; providing penalty
for violation; providing for codification; and
providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7000 of Title 59, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma
Landscaper Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7001 of Title 59, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this act:

1. "Board" means the Oklahoma State Board of Agriculture;
2. "Landscaper" means a person who:

1 a. is a pesticide applicator, gardener, landscape
2 gardener, garden or lawn caretaker or a grader or
3 cultivator of land involved in the selection,
4 placement, planting and maintenance of plant material,
5 and

6 b. services listed in division (1) of this paragraph
7 constitutes the primary source of income for this
8 person.

9 3. A landscaper under this act does not include:

10 a. persons who perform landscaping services that does not
11 offer restricted use pesticide application pursuant to
12 Sections 3-82 through 3-86 of Title 2 of the Oklahoma
13 Statutes, and

14 b. person who performs landscaping services as
15 supplemental income while attending school.

16 4. "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
17 joint venture, trust, association or any other legal entity,
18 however, organized that employs more than four (4) people; and

19 5. "Primary source of income" means that such services
20 performed more than six (6) months out of the year and represent
21 more than fifty percent (50%) of the total income for that person.

22 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7002 of Title 59, unless there
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 No person shall engage in landscaping business without first
2 obtaining a license from the Oklahoma Board of Agriculture.

3 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7003 of Title 59, unless there
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 The Oklahoma Board of Agriculture may promulgate administrative
7 rules to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Landscaper Act.

8 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2021, Section 3-82, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 Section 3-82. A. LICENSE REQUIRED - 1. It shall be unlawful
11 for any person to act, operate, or do business or advertise as a
12 commercial, noncommercial, certified applicator, temporary certified
13 applicator, service technician, or private applicator unless the
14 person has obtained a valid applicator's license issued by the State
15 Board of Agriculture for the category of pesticide application in
16 which the person is engaged.

17 2. A license may be issued by the Board in any category of
18 pesticide application if the applicant qualifies and the applicant
19 is limited to the category of pesticide application named on the
20 license. The Board may establish categories of pesticide
21 application as necessary. Licenses shall be issued upon application
22 to the Board on a form prescribed by the Board. The application
23 shall contain information regarding the applicant's qualifications,
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1 proposed operations, and other information as specified by the
2 Board.

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

12 b. The Board shall promulgate rules regarding aerial
13 applicators and applications consistent with federal
14 law and shall solicit the assistance of the Federal
15 Aviation Agency in the enforcement of this subsection.

16 4. Each business location shall require a separate license and
17 separate certified applicator except that a certified applicator for
18 a noncommercial business location may also serve as the certified
19 applicator for one commercial business location.

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

23 B. CERTIFICATION REQUIRED - 1. A license shall be issued only
24 after satisfactory completion of the certification standards by the

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

13 2. A certified service technician identification shall be
14 issued upon application and completion of certification standards
15 determined by the Board. Temporary certified applicators may
16 qualify as a certified service technician. No person shall act, do
17 business as, or advertise as a service technician unless the person
18 has met all the qualifications and standards as required by the
19 Board. The service technicians' identification shall be issued in
20 the name of the licensed entity. The licensee shall ensure that the
21 service technician identification is returned to the Board upon
22 termination of the employee. A service technician identification
23 shall be valid for a period of five (5) years unless suspended,
24 canceled, or revoked by the Board, until recertification is required

1 by the Board, or until the service technician leaves the employ of
2 the licensed entity. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food,
3 and Forestry may issue a service technician identification upon
4 completion of the following:

5 a. a determination is made by the Department that the
6 applicant has successfully completed the written
7 examination,

8 b. the licensed entity provides a completed service
9 technician identification application form at the time
10 of testing, and

11 c. all appropriate fees are paid at the time of testing.

12 3. Each license, except for private applicators, shall expire
13 on dates established by the Department in administrative rules and
14 may be renewed for the ensuing calendar year, without penalty or
15 reexamination, if a properly completed application is filed with the
16 Board on a date established by the Department. If the application
17 is not received by the due date, a penalty of twice the amount of
18 the renewal fee shall be charged for renewal of the license. If the
19 application is not received within thirty (30) days following the
20 due date, an additional one-hundred-dollar penalty shall be paid
21 prior to license renewal.

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

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

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

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

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

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

13 5. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the Board
14 for the issuance or renewal of a noncommercial business license.
15 Not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) total category
16 fees shall be charged annually to any noncommercial business
17 location of an applicator;

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

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

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

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

4 D. All fees shall be deposited in the State Department of
5 Agriculture Revolving Fund.

6 E. Fees shall be paid to the Board prior to the processing of
7 any application.

8 F. Failure to pay any fee identified with licenses, permits,
9 pesticide registrations, or certification shall require the Board to
10 deny the application.

11 G. INSURANCE REQUIRED - 1. The Board shall not issue a
12 commercial applicator's license until the applicant has furnished
13 evidence of an insurance policy or certificate by an insurer or
14 broker authorized to do business in this state insuring the
15 commercial applicator and any agents against liability resulting
16 from the operations of the commercial applicator. The insurance
17 shall not be applied to damage or injury to agricultural crops,
18 plants, or land being worked upon by the commercial applicator.

19 2. The amount of liability shall not be less than that set by
20 the Board for each property damage arising out of actual use of any
21 pesticide. The liability shall be maintained at not less than that
22 sum at all times during the licensing period. The Board shall be
23 notified fifteen (15) days prior to any reduction in liability.
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1 3. If the furnished liability becomes unsatisfactory, the
2 applicant shall immediately execute new liability upon notice from
3 the Board. If new liability is not immediately obtained, the Board
4 shall, upon notice, cancel the license. It shall be unlawful for
5 the person to engage in the business of applying pesticides until
6 the liability is brought into compliance and the license reinstated.

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

- 10 a. within ninety (90) calendar days of the date that the
11 alleged damages occurred or prior to the time that
12 twenty-five percent (25%) of the allegedly damaged
13 crops or plants are harvested, whichever occurs first,
14 file a written complaint statement with the Department
15 regarding the alleged damages, and
- 16 b. between the date of filing of the written complaint
17 pursuant to subparagraph a of this paragraph and the
18 date harvesting or destruction of the allegedly
19 damaged crops or plants occurs, allow the applicator
20 and the representatives of the applicator reasonable
21 access to the property to inspect and take samples of
22 the allegedly damaged crops or plants during
23 reasonable hours. The representatives of the
24 applicator may include, but not be limited to, crop

1 consultants, bondsmen, and insurers. Nothing in this
2 subparagraph shall limit in any way the harvesting or
3 destruction of the allegedly damaged crops or plants
4 in the ordinary course of business and practice.

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

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

12 2. A permit may be issued by the Board in any category of
13 pesticide sales if the applicant qualifies under the provisions of
14 this section and the applicant is limited to the category of
15 pesticide sales named on the permit. The Board may establish
16 categories of pesticide sales as necessary.

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

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

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

1 6. The Board may require a certified applicator to be present
2 at any location where designated restricted use pesticide sales
3 occur.

4 7. A holder of a restricted-use pesticide dealer's permit shall
5 only sell restricted-use pesticides to holders of a valid
6 applicator's license or another restricted-use pesticide dealer's
7 permit holder. Holders of a restricted-use pesticide dealer's
8 permit who violate this provision shall receive a fine of One
9 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per violation to be issued
10 by the State Board of Agriculture or authorized agents of the Board.

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

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

- 17 a. the name and address of the registrant and the name
18 and address of the person whose name shall appear on
19 the label, if other than the registrant,
- 20 b. the name of the pesticide or device,
- 21 c. a complete copy of the labeling accompanying the
22 pesticide or device and a statement of all claims to
23 be made for it, and directions for use, and

1 d. if requested by the Board, a full description of the
2 tests made and the results upon which the claims are
3 based. In renewing a registration, a statement shall
4 be required only with respect to information which is
5 different from the information furnished when the
6 pesticide or device was last registered.

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

17 4. The Board may require the submission of the complete formula
18 of any pesticide. Trade secrets and formulations submitted by the
19 registrant may be kept confidential. If it appears to the Board
20 that the composition of the pesticide is adequate to warrant the
21 proposed claims and if the pesticide, its labeling, and other
22 material required to be submitted comply with the requirements of
23 this section, then the pesticide shall be registered.

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

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

19 7. Registration shall not be required in the case of a
20 pesticide shipped from one plant or place within this state to
21 another plant or place within this state that is operated by the
22 same person.
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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,
17 email, 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 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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