

CHAPTER 575

H.B. No. 2486

An Act relating to the authority of certain agricultural cooperative marketing associations to deal in the products of persons who are not members of the association.

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

SECTION 1. Section 52.012, Agriculture Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(b) A marketing association may deal in the products and supplies of nonmembers. *However, except as provided by Subsection (c) of this section, an association [but] is restricted to an amount of nonmember products and supplies that is not greater than the value of the products that it handles for its members.*

(c) *A marketing association that is organized primarily for the production, cultivation, and care of citrus groves and for the processing and marketing of citrus products and for which the principal offices are located in a county in which not less than 500 acres of land are planted in producing citrus groves may deal in the products and supplies of nonmembers to an amount that is greater than the value of the products that it handles for its members for the five-year period immediately following a natural disaster, such as a severe freeze, during which the citrus crops of the association's membership are substantially reduced as a direct result of the disaster.*

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 17, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 26, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved: June 12, 1985

Effective: Immediately