

By: Meza

H.B. No. 2769

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the repeal of the permit requirement for the intrastate shipment of bees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 131.121(a), Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if the person:

(1) violates a provision of Section 131.022 or 131.023 ~~[of this code]~~;

(2) fails to report diseased bees in accordance with Section 131.025 ~~[of this code]~~;

(3) ships or causes bees or equipment to be shipped into this state ~~[or between counties in this state]~~ without the permit required by Section 131.041 ~~[or 131.043 of this chapter]~~;

(4) violates a rule, order, or quarantine of the chief apiary inspector adopted under this chapter;

(5) prevents or attempts to prevent an inspection of bees, equipment, pollen, or honey under the direction of the inspector under this chapter;

(6) prevents or attempts to prevent the discovery or treatment of diseased bees;

(7) interferes with or attempts to interfere with the inspector in the discharge of the duties under this chapter;

(8) as the owner or keeper of a diseased colony of

1 bees, barter, gives away, sells, ships, or moves diseased bees,
2 equipment, pollen, or honey or exposes other bees to the disease;

3 (9) exposes honey, pollen, hives, frames, combs, bees,
4 or appliances known to be diseased in a manner that provides access
5 to bees; or

6 (10) sells, offers for sale, barter, gives away,
7 ships, or distributes honey or pollen taken from a colony of
8 diseased bees.

9 SECTION 2. Section [131.043](#), Agriculture Code, is repealed.

10 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
11 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
12 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
13 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
14 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
15 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
16 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
17 before that date.

18 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.