

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 240  
By: Miller  
Agriculture & Livestock  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Current law does not contain a specific provision penalizing agriculture terrorism, leaving one of our state's most valuable commodities at great risk. House Bill 240 makes it a first degree felony to introduce mad cow disease, foot-and-mouth disease, and several other debilitating diseases into livestock.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Section 28.03, Penal Code, is amended by adding Subsection (i) to increase the offense of introducing bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) or a disease described by Section 161.041(a), Agriculture Code, into livestock a felony of the first degree.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this act prospective.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2003.