

By: Kolkhorst

H.B. No. 641

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to state policy and regulations regarding bison; providing
3 penalties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Agriculture Code, is amended by
6 adding Section 2.005 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 2.005. POLICY: BISON. The agricultural policy of this
8 state must recognize that bison:

9 (1) are wild animals indigenous to this state;

10 (2) are distinct from cattle, livestock, exotic
11 livestock, and game animals; and

12 (3) may be raised and used for:

13 (A) commercial purposes; or

14 (B) the purpose of preserving the bison species.

15 SECTION 2. Section 433.003(11), Health and Safety Code, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (11) "Livestock" means cattle, bison, sheep, swine,
18 goats, horses, mules, other equines, poultry, domestic rabbits,
19 exotic animals, or domesticated game birds.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.