

1-1 By: Kolkhorst (Senate Sponsor - Armbrister) H.B. No. 641
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 14, 2003;
1-3 April 15, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Natural Resources; April 22, 2003, rereferred to Committee on
1-5 Administration; April 29, 2003, reported favorably by the following
1-6 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 29, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to state policy and regulations regarding bison; providing
1-10 penalties.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Agriculture Code, is amended by
1-13 adding Section 2.005 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 2.005. POLICY: BISON. The agricultural policy of this
1-15 state must recognize that bison:

1-16 (1) are wild animals indigenous to this state;

1-17 (2) are distinct from cattle, livestock, exotic
1-18 livestock, and game animals; and

1-19 (3) may be raised and used for:

1-20 (A) commercial purposes; or

1-21 (B) the purpose of preserving the bison species.

1-22 SECTION 2. Section 433.003(11), Health and Safety Code, is
1-23 amended to read as follows:

1-24 (11) "Livestock" means cattle, bison, sheep, swine,
1-25 goats, horses, mules, other equines, poultry, domestic rabbits,
1-26 exotic animals, or domesticated game birds.

1-27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-31 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

1-32 * * * * *