

By: McReynolds

H.B. No. 2328

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the registration of persons engaged in certain fowl operations; providing a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 161, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 161.0411 to read as follows:

Sec. 161.0411. DOMESTIC AND EXOTIC FOWL REGISTRATION. (a) A seller, distributor, or transporter of live domestic or exotic fowl in this state shall register with the commission under this section. This section does not apply to a person participating in disease surveillance programs as recognized by the commission.

(b) A person shall apply for a certificate of registration or a renewal of a certificate of registration under this section by submitting an application and an annual fee prescribed by the commission. A person must complete an application for a certificate of registration that lists each location at which the person conducts the sale, distribution, or transportation of domestic or exotic fowl.

(c) The commission shall adopt rules to administer this section, including rules relating to the testing, identification, transportation, inspection, sanitation, and disinfection of domestic or exotic fowl.

(d) The commission shall prescribe and collect an annual fee for registration as a seller, distributor, or transporter of

1 domestic or exotic fowl in this state.

2 (e) The commission may set fees under this section in
3 amounts that do not exceed the amounts necessary to enable the
4 commission to recover the costs of administering this section.

5 (f) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly
6 violates this section or fails to comply with an order or rule
7 adopted under this section.

8 (g) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor
9 unless it is shown on the trial of the offense that the defendant
10 has been previously convicted under this section, in which event
11 the offense is a Class B misdemeanor.

12 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2004, the Texas Animal
13 Health Commission shall adopt rules to administer Section 161.0411,
14 Agriculture Code, as added by this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, except
16 that Sections 161.0411(a), (f), and (g), Agriculture Code, as added
17 by this Act, take effect February 1, 2004.