

AN ACT

relating to regulation of the disposal of animal remains.

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

SECTION 1. Section 161.004, Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 161.004. DISPOSAL OF DISEASED LIVESTOCK CARCASS.

(a) A person who is the owner or caretaker of livestock that die from a disease listed in Section 161.041 of this code, or who owns or controls the land on which the livestock die or on which the carcasses are found, shall, within 24 hours after the carcasses are found:

(1) bury the carcass of each animal by digging a grave five feet deep, placing the carcass in the grave, covering the carcass with lime, and filling the grave with dirt; or

(2) set fire to the carcass of each animal and burn it until it is thoroughly consumed.

(b) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality may not adopt a rule related to the disposal of livestock under this section unless the rule is developed in cooperation with and is approved by the Texas Animal Health Commission.

SECTION 2. Section 161.0415, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality may not adopt a rule related to the disposal of livestock under this section

1 unless the rule is developed in cooperation with and is approved by
2 the Texas Animal Health Commission.

3 SECTION 3. Section 801.361, Occupations Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

5 (d) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality may not
6 adopt a rule that relates to the disposal of animal remains under
7 this section unless the rule is developed in cooperation with and is
8 approved by the Texas Animal Health Commission.

9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3061 was passed by the House on May 2, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 136, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3061 on May 30, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3061 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor