

By: Kuempel

H.B. No. 3599

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the management of deer and land with deer populations  
3 under management plans approved by the Parks and Wildlife  
4 Department.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 42.018(g), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (g) A landowner or the landowner's agent operating under a  
9 wildlife management plan approved by the department is, if  
10 authorized by the commission, exempt from the tag requirements of  
11 this section. Under a wildlife management plan approved by the  
12 department, the department may issue to the landowner a managed  
13 lands deer permit, may provide for different management activities  
14 under different permitted levels, and may establish different fees  
15 for the different levels of permits. The greater freedom given the  
16 landowner in managing deer populations under the applicable permit  
17 level, the greater the amount of the fee the department shall  
18 establish for the permit.

19 SECTION 2. Section 43.603(c), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (c) The department may establish various levels of permits  
22 to be issued under this subchapter, determine the activities  
23 permitted under the respective levels, and establish different fees  
24 for the various levels. [~~The department shall set a fee for the~~

1 ~~issuance or renewal of a permit in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.]~~

2 SECTION 3. Section 43.606, Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 43.606. APPLICATION OF GENERAL LAWS. Except as  
5 expressly provided by this subchapter and the terms and conditions  
6 of the permit and management plan, the general laws and regulations  
7 of this state applicable to white-tailed deer do not apply to deer  
8 on the acreage covered by the permit. This subchapter does not  
9 restrict or prohibit the use of high fences on acreage not covered  
10 by a management plan.

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