

AN ACT

relating to livestock branding and identification.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 144.001, Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each person who has cattle, hogs, sheep, or goats shall have and may use one or more earmarks, ~~[and one or more]~~ brands, tattoos, or electronic devices differing from the earmarks, ~~[and]~~ brands, tattoos, and electronic devices of the person's neighbors.

SECTION 2. Section 144.041, Agriculture Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(a) Each person who owns cattle, hogs, sheep, or goats shall record that person's earmarks, ~~[and]~~ brands, tattoos, and electronic devices with the county clerk of the county in which the animals are located.

(f) Not later than the 30th day after the date a county clerk receives a record relating to cattle or horses under this section, the clerk shall forward a copy of the record to the association authorized to inspect livestock under 7 U.S.C. Section 217a.

SECTION 3. Section 144.042, Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 144.042. RECORDING. In recording a mark, electronic device, tattoo, or brand, the county clerk shall note the date on

1 which the mark, electronic device, tattoo, or brand is recorded. In
2 addition, the person recording a mark, electronic device, tattoo,
3 or brand shall designate the part of the animal on which the mark,
4 electronic device, tattoo, or brand is to be placed and the clerk
5 shall include that in the records.

6 SECTION 4. Section 144.044, Agriculture Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

8 (d) Not later than the 30th day after the date a county clerk
9 receives a record relating to cattle or horses under this section,
10 the clerk shall forward a copy of the record to the association
11 authorized to inspect livestock under 7 U.S.C. Section 217a.

12 SECTION 5. The following provisions of the Agriculture Code
13 are repealed:

- 14 (1) Sections 144.123, 144.126, and 146.002;
- 15 (2) Subchapters B and D, Chapter 144; and
- 16 (3) Subchapter C, Chapter 146.

17 SECTION 6. An offense committed before the effective date
18 of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the offense was
19 committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that
20 purpose. An offense is committed before the effective date of this
21 Act if any element of the offense occurs before the effective date.

22 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1389 passed the Senate on May 6, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 29, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1389 passed the House, with amendments, on May 24, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor