

Amend CSHB 2026 (House Committee Printing) as follows:

(1) Insert the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS and renumber subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Section 62.0065, Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, is intended to provide an enforcement tool to deter the unlawful hunting of deer with dogs in certain East Texas counties where the activity has historically occurred. Section 62.0065, Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, is not intended to prevent a person from engaging in lawful hunting activities, including hunting waterfowl, feral hogs, white-tailed deer, and red or gray squirrels, or trailing a wounded deer in counties where that is lawful.

SECTION _____. Subchapter A, Chapter 62, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 62.0065 to read as follows:

Sec. 62.0065. HUNTING DEER WITH DOGS. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (d), a person may not recklessly use a dog to hunt or pursue a deer in this state.

(b) The commission by rule may prescribe the type of firearm that may be possessed during an open deer season by a person who is in actual or constructive possession of a dog while in the field on another person's land or property in Angelina, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Panola, Polk, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler, or Walker County.

(c) It is not a defense to prosecution under Subsection (a) or to prosecution for violation of a rule adopted under Subsection (b) that the defendant was not the owner or in immediate possession of the dog or that the offense or violation was committed without the effective consent of the dog's owner.

(d) The commission by rule may authorize the use of dogs to trail wounded deer.

SECTION _____. Sections 62.013(b) and (c), Parks and Wildlife Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) A person who violates Section 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, or 62.011(c), or a rule adopted under Section 62.0065 [~~of this code~~] commits an offense that is a Class A Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor, unless it is shown at the trial of the defendant

for a violation of that section or rule, as appropriate, that the defendant has been convicted one or more times before the trial date of a violation of that section or rule, as appropriate, in which case the offense is a Parks and Wildlife Code state jail felony.

(c) In addition to the punishments provided in Subsections (a) and (b), a person who violates Section 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, or 62.011(c), or a rule adopted under Section 62.0065 [~~of this code~~] is punishable by the revocation or suspension under Section 12.5015 of hunting and fishing licenses and permits.

SECTION _____. Sections 62.017(a) and (c), Parks and Wildlife Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) If a person is finally convicted of an offense under Section 61.022, 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, or 62.011(c), or violation of a rule adopted under Section 62.0065, the court entering judgment of conviction may order any weapon or other personal property used in the commission of the offense or violation destroyed or forfeited to the department.

(c) This section does not apply to a vehicle, aircraft, [~~or~~] vessel, or dog.

SECTION _____. Sections 12.5015(a), (b), and (c), Parks and Wildlife Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by this section, any hunting or fishing license or permit issued by the department to a person is automatically revoked on final conviction of the person of an offense under Section 61.022, 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, 62.011(c), 66.004(a), or 66.004(c) or a violation of a rule adopted under Section 62.0065.

(b) If the holder of a lifetime license is finally convicted of an offense under Section 61.022, 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, 62.011(c), 66.004(a), or 66.004(c), or a violation of a rule adopted under Section 62.0065, the person's lifetime license is automatically suspended. The suspension is for a period set by the court of not less than one year or more than five years. If the court does not set a period, the suspension is for one year from the date the conviction becomes final.

(c) On conviction of a person for an offense under Section 61.022, 62.003, 62.004, 62.005, 62.0065, 62.011(c), 66.004(a), or

66.004(c), or a violation of a rule adopted under Section 62.0065,
the court shall set a period of not less than one year and not more
than five years during which the department may not issue that
person a license, tag, or stamp under Chapter 42, 46, or 50. If the
court does not set a period, the department may not issue that
person a license, tag, or stamp under Chapter 42, 46, or 50 before
the first anniversary of the date the conviction becomes final.

(2) On page 14, line 26, strike "Section 12.409" and
substitute "Sections 12.409, 12.5015, 62.013, and 62.017".