

Amend CSSB 9 by adding the following new SECTION, appropriately numbered, and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Chapter 2, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 2.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 2.006. POLICY: INSPECTION STATIONS. (a) Protecting this state from the intentional or unintentional introduction of damaging plant and animal pests and diseases is paramount to the interests of the agriculture industry and this state.

(b) The department, with the assistance of the Texas Animal Health Commission, shall protect this state by ensuring that the borders of this state are secure from shipments of potentially dangerous plant and animal pests and diseases.

(c) In recognition of the key role that plant and animal inspections play in proactively protecting this state's borders, the department and the Texas Animal Health Commission, under the direction of the department, shall carry out joint road station and interstate shipment inspections when feasible at strategic points throughout this state as determined by the department and the Texas Animal Health Commission.