

By: Smith of Tarrant

H.B. No. 391

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to computer-assisted hunting from remote locations;
3 providing penalties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 62, Parks and Wildlife
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 62.002 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 62.002. COMPUTER-ASSISTED REMOTE HUNTING. (a) In
8 this section:

9 (1) "Computer-assisted remote hunting" means the use
10 of a computer or any other device, equipment, or software, to
11 remotely control the aiming and discharge of a firearm to hunt an
12 animal, including a bird.

13 (2) "Firearm" has the meaning assigned by Section
14 62.014.

15 (b) A person may not engage in computer-assisted remote
16 hunting or provide or operate facilities for computer-assisted
17 remote hunting if the animal being hunted is located in this state.

18 (c) For purposes of this section, facilities for
19 computer-assisted remote hunting include real property and
20 improvements on the property associated with hunting, including
21 hunting blinds, offices, and rooms equipped to facilitate
22 computer-assisted remote hunting.

23 (d) A person who violates this section commits an offense
24 that is a Class C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor, unless it is

1 shown at the trial of the defendant that the defendant has been
2 convicted one or more times before the trial date of a violation of
3 this section, in which case the offense is a Class B Parks and
4 Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

5 (e) It is an exception to the application of this section
6 that a person provides only:

7 (1) general-purpose equipment, including a computer,
8 camera, fencing, and building materials;

9 (2) general-purpose computer software including an
10 operating system and communications programs; or

11 (3) general telecommunications hardware or networking
12 services for computers, including adapters, modems, servers,
13 routers, and other facilities associated with Internet access.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.