

By: Hilderbran (Senate Sponsor - Estes) H.B. No. 2032  
(In the Senate - Received from the House April 25, 2005;  
April 26, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on  
Natural Resources; May 3, 2005, reported favorably by the  
following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 3, 2005, sent to printer.)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

relating to the expansion of the operation game thief program to  
include certain other violations of law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 12.201, Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

Sec. 12.201. CREATION OF FUND. The department may accept  
and deposit in a special fund outside the state treasury, called the  
operation game thief fund, donations from any person made for  
purposes of this subchapter. Funds deposited in the operation game  
thief fund may be used only for the maintenance of that fund,  
promotion of the operation game thief program through advertisement  
and marketing, the development, acquisition, and implementation of  
technological advancements to facilitate the apprehension and  
prosecution of persons who violate laws of this state intended to  
protect the state's natural or cultural resources or the public  
safety of persons using those natural or cultural resources, and  
payment of rewards and death benefits authorized by this  
subchapter. The Operation Game Thief Committee shall adopt rules  
for the implementation of the operation game thief program and  
maintenance of the operation game thief fund.

SECTION 2. Section 12.203(a), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

(a) A person may apply to the committee for a reward to be  
paid from the operation game thief fund if the person [who]  
furnishes information leading to the arrest and conviction of a  
person for a [flagrant] violation of this code or any of the  
following laws or a regulation [or proclamation] adopted under this  
code or any of the following laws:

- (1) Subchapter B, Chapter 365, Health and Safety Code;
- (2) Subchapter E, Chapter 191, Natural Resources Code;
- (3) Chapter 28 or Section 30.05, 31.03, 31.11, 37.10,  
49.06, 49.07, or 49.08, Penal Code;
- (4) Chapter 160, Tax Code; or
- (5) Subchapter E, Chapter 7, or Subchapter D, Chapter  
26, Water Code [that applies to the taking, possession, or sale of  
an animal, bird, reptile, or fish may apply to the committee for a  
reward to be paid from the operation game thief fund].

SECTION 3. Section 12.203(d), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
repealed.

SECTION 4. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this  
section, the conviction of a person, before the effective date of  
this Act, for a violation of a law included under Section 12.203(a),  
Parks and Wildlife Code, as amended by this Act, may not be the  
basis of a claim for reward made under Subchapter C, Chapter 12,  
Parks and Wildlife Code, as amended by this Act.

(b) The conviction of a person before the effective date of  
this Act for a flagrant violation of the Parks and Wildlife Code or  
a regulation or proclamation adopted under that code applicable to  
the taking, possession, or sale of an animal, bird, reptile, or fish  
may be the basis of a claim for reward made under Subchapter C,  
Chapter 12, Parks and Wildlife Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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