

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 956
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 3, 2005; March 14, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;
1-4 April 22, 2005, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5,
1-5 Nays 0; April 22, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the appointment and jurisdiction of cattle rangers.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
1-11 amended by adding Article 2.125 to read as follows:

1-12 Art. 2.125. SPECIAL RANGERS OF TEXAS AND SOUTHWESTERN
1-13 CATTLE RAISERS ASSOCIATION. (a) The director of the Department of
1-14 Public Safety may appoint up to 50 special rangers who are employed
1-15 by the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association to aid law
1-16 enforcement agencies in the investigation of the theft of livestock
1-17 or related property.

1-18 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a special ranger
1-19 may make arrests and exercise all authority given peace officers
1-20 under this code when necessary to prevent or abate the commission of
1-21 an offense involving livestock or related property.

1-22 (c) A special ranger may not issue a traffic citation for a
1-23 violation of Chapter 521, Transportation Code, or Subtitle C, Title
1-24 7, Transportation Code.

1-25 (d) A special ranger is not entitled to state benefits
1-26 normally provided by the state to a peace officer.

1-27 (e) A person may not serve as a special ranger unless:

1-28 (1) the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers
1-29 Association submits the person's application for appointment and
1-30 certification as a special ranger to the director of the Department
1-31 of Public Safety and to the executive director of the Commission on
1-32 Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education;

1-33 (2) the director of the department issues the person a
1-34 certificate of authority to act as a special ranger;

1-35 (3) the executive director of the commission
1-36 determines that the person meets minimum standards required of
1-37 peace officers by the commission relating to competence,
1-38 reliability, education, training, morality, and physical and
1-39 mental health and issues the person a license as a special ranger;
1-40 and

1-41 (4) the person has met all standards for certification
1-42 as a peace officer by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer
1-43 Standards and Education.

1-44 (f) For good cause, the director of the department may
1-45 revoke a certificate of authority issued under this article, and
1-46 the executive director of the commission may revoke a license
1-47 issued under this article. Termination of employment with the
1-48 Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, or the
1-49 revocation of a special ranger license, constitutes an automatic
1-50 revocation of a certificate of authority to act as a special ranger.

1-51 (g) The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association
1-52 is liable for any act or omission by a person serving as a special
1-53 ranger for the association that is within the person's scope of
1-54 employment. Neither the state nor any political subdivision or
1-55 agency of the state is liable for any act or omission by a person
1-56 appointed as a special ranger. All expenses incurred by the
1-57 granting or revocation of a certificate of authority to act as a
1-58 special ranger shall be paid by the association.

1-59 (h) The director of the department and the executive
1-60 director of the commission have the authority to adopt rules
1-61 necessary for the effective administration and performance of the
1-62 duties and responsibilities delegated to them by this article.

1-63 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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