

1-1 By: Kuempel (Senate Sponsor - Estes) H.B. No. 308
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 10, 2007;
1-3 April 11, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Natural Resources; May 16, 2007, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0; May 16, 2007, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to the use of laser sighting devices by hunters who are
1-9 legally blind.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 62.005, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-12 amended to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 62.005. HUNTING WITH LIGHT. Except as provided by
1-14 Section 62.0055, no [No] person may hunt a game animal or bird
1-15 protected by this code with the aid of an artificial light that
1-16 casts or reflects a beam of light onto or otherwise illuminates the
1-17 game animal or bird, including the headlights of a motor vehicle.

1-18 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 62, Parks and Wildlife
1-19 Code, is amended by adding Section 62.0055 to read as follows:

1-20 Sec. 62.0055. HUNTING WITH LASER SIGHTING DEVICE BY LEGALLY
1-21 BLIND HUNTER. (a) In this section, "legally blind" has the meaning
1-22 assigned by Section 62.104, Government Code.

1-23 (b) A legally blind hunter may use a laser sighting device
1-24 during regular hunting hours when assisted by a person who:

1-25 (1) is not legally blind;

1-26 (2) has a hunting license; and

1-27 (3) is at least 13 years of age.

1-28 (c) The legally blind hunter must carry proof of being
1-29 legally blind.

1-30 (d) Section 62.014 applies to a hunter under this section.

1-31 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than September 1, 2007, the Parks
1-32 and Wildlife Commission shall adopt rules that prescribe what is
1-33 acceptable as proof of being legally blind under Section 62.0055,
1-34 Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act.

1-35 (b) The Parks and Wildlife Department may not enforce
1-36 Section 62.0055(c), Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act,
1-37 until the rules adopted under Subsection (a) of this section take
1-38 effect.

1-39 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-40 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-41 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-42 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-43 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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