

By: Miller, Kolchorst, Hughes, Anderson,
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H.B. No. 461

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to prohibiting mandatory participation in an animal
3 identification system.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 161.056(a), (c), and (d), Agriculture
6 Code, are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) In order to provide for disease control and enhance the
8 ability to trace disease-infected animals or animals that have been
9 exposed to disease, the commission may develop and implement a
10 voluntary [~~an~~] animal identification program that is consistent
11 with the United States Department of Agriculture's National Animal
12 Identification System.

13 (c) The commission may permit [~~require~~] the use of official
14 identification numbers assigned as part of the animal
15 identification program for animal disease control, animal
16 emergency management, and other commission programs.

17 (d) The commission may establish a date by which all
18 participating premises must be registered and may assess a
19 registration fee on all entities that register for a premises
20 identification number.

21 SECTION 2. Sections 161.056(g) and (h), Agriculture Code,
22 are repealed.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.