

1-1 By: Averitt S.B. No. 1669
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 8, 2007; March 21, 2007, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources;
1-4 April 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 10,
1-5 Nays 0; April 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to revenue generated from and uses of public hunting lands
1-9 and wildlife management areas.

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

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 81.401, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-12 amended to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 81.401. ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT OF AREAS. (a) The
1-14 department may acquire by donation, purchase, lease, or otherwise,
1-15 and develop, maintain, and operate, wildlife management areas and
1-16 public hunting lands.

1-17 (b) The department ~~and~~ may manage, along sound biological
1-18 lines, wildlife and fish found on any land the department has or may
1-19 acquire as a wildlife management area.

1-20 (c) The department may use money from the game, fish, and
1-21 water safety account to accomplish the purposes of this section.

1-22 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 81, Parks and Wildlife
1-23 Code, is amended by adding Sections 81.4011 and 81.4012 to read as
1-24 follows:

1-25 Sec. 81.4011. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "public
1-26 hunting land" means land:

1-27 (1) owned, leased, or managed by the department,
1-28 including a wildlife management area; and

1-29 (2) designated by the director as public hunting land.

1-30 Sec. 81.4012. APPLICABILITY TO STATE PARK LAND. This
1-31 subchapter applies to a state park only:

1-32 (1) on public hunting land in the park; and

1-33 (2) on specific dates designated by the department for
1-34 public hunting activities.

1-35 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 81.403, Parks and
1-36 Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-37 Sec. 81.403. PERMITS; FEES.

1-38 SECTION 4. Section 81.403, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-39 amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection
1-40 (a-1) to read as follows:

1-41 (a) The department may issue a permit authorizing access to
1-42 public hunting land or for specific hunting, fishing, recreational,
1-43 or other use of public hunting land or a wildlife management area.
1-44 The commission by rule shall prescribe the conditions for the
1-45 issuance and use of a permit under this section.

1-46 (a-1) Except as provided by this section ~~[in Subsections (b)~~
1-47 ~~and (c)]~~, permits for hunting of wildlife or for any other use in
1-48 wildlife management areas or public hunting lands shall be issued
1-49 by the department to applicants by means of a fair method of
1-50 distribution subject to limitations on the maximum number of
1-51 permits to be issued.

1-52 (c) The department shall charge a permit fee in the amount
1-53 set by the commission by rule. Revenue from permit fees for access
1-54 to state parks must be deposited to the credit of the state parks
1-55 account. Revenue from other permit fees under this section must be
1-56 deposited to the game, fish, and water safety account.

1-57 SECTION 5. Sections 62.064 and 62.065, Parks and Wildlife
1-58 Code, are repealed.

1-59 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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