

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 693  
By: Truitt  
Licensing & Administrative Procedures  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Current law requires falconers practicing in Texas to obtain a structural pest control license from the Structural Pest Control Service. A structural pest control license applicant must complete an apprenticeship under a licensed commercial pesticides applicator as well as 28 hours of classroom training and 40 hours of on-the-job training in pesticide application, mixing, spill cleanup, and insect inspection before receiving a license. These tasks are related primarily to the control of insect pests rather than the unattended bird roosts controlled by falconers. Falconers already are required to maintain a federal and state falconry permit where the applicant must pass a licensing exam, build aviary facilities that are regularly inspected by a game warden, and complete a two-year apprenticeship under the sponsorship of a general master class falconer.

H.B. 693 exempts a person engaged in falconry from structural pest control licensing requirements to prevent unnecessary licensing procedures for falconers.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H. B. 693 amends the Occupations Code to exempt from structural pest control licensing requirements a person engaged in falconry who holds a falconer's permit and uses a raptor to control or relocate other birds. The bill specifies that such a person is not considered to be engaged in the business of structural pest control.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

On passage, or, if the act does not receive the necessary vote, the act takes effect September 1, 2009.