

By: Deuell

S.B. No. 1851

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the posting of notice by a county sheriff regarding impounded estrays.

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

SECTION 1. Section 142.009(d), Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) If the owner of the stray is unknown, the sheriff or the sheriff's designee shall make a diligent search for the identity of the owner of the stray, including a search in the county register of recorded brands, if the animal has an identifiable brand. If the search does not reveal the owner, the sheriff shall post a notice of the impoundment on the public notice board of the courthouse and:

(1) advertise the impoundment of the stray in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least twice during the 15 days after the date of impoundment; or

(2) post a notice of the impoundment on the Internet website of:

(A) the county in which the stray is impounded;
and

(B) the sheriff's department of the county in which the stray is impounded, if the sheriff's department maintains a separate Internet website [and shall post a notice of the impoundment on the public notice board of the courthouse].

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.