

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: King of Zavala

H.B. No. 1908

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the safety of the fresh fruit and vegetables produced in this state.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that:

(1) the agricultural industry is a vital part of this state's economy, annually contributing \$103 billion, or 9.2 percent of the gross state product, and is the state's second largest resource-based industry, with one in seven Texans being employed in some segment of the agricultural industry;

(2) food safety must be a top state priority because an accidental or deliberate contamination of food or crops could be detrimental to the state's economy and would undermine consumer confidence in the integrity of food safety in this state;

(3) the growing and processing of fresh fruits and vegetables is crucial to this state, and since September 11, 2001, awareness of the threat of contamination of those products has increased; and

(4) this state should increase awareness of food safety among its growers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables to avoid disastrous events.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 91, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 91.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 91.009. COORDINATION OF FOOD SAFETY. (a) The

1 department is the lead agency and shall assist the fresh fruit and
2 vegetable industries with food safety issues and may provide
3 assistance to federal agencies in their implementation of voluntary
4 guidelines relating to sound agricultural practices.

5 (b) The department shall coordinate, plan, and approve
6 training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh
7 fruits and vegetables. A program under this subsection must inform
8 and educate producers and packers regarding:

9 (1) sound agricultural practices;
10 (2) proper food handling procedures;
11 (3) the prevention of accidental or deliberately
12 planned outbreaks of disease; and

13 (4) the enhancement of overall food safety.

14 (c) The department shall coordinate the planning and
15 implementation of programs required by Subsection (b) with:

16 (1) colleges and universities in this state;
17 (2) the Texas AgriLife Extension Service;
18 (3) Texas AgriLife Research;
19 (4) the Department of State Health Services; and
20 (5) private industry.

21 (d) The department may adopt rules to implement this
22 section. In the development of rules for the certification of
23 approved food safety curriculum or training, the department shall
24 consult and coordinate with the Department of State Health
25 Services.

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

H.B. No. 1908

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, 2009.

ADOPTED

MAY 12 2009

Atty. Gen.
Secretary of the Senate

By: King/Hinojosa

H.B. No. 1908

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1908:

By: J. J. King

C.S.H.B. No. 1908

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that:

(1) the agricultural industry is a vital part of this state's economy, annually contributing \$103 billion, or 9.2 percent of the gross state product, and is the state's second largest resource-based industry, with one in seven Texans being employed in some segment of the agricultural industry;

(2) food safety must be a top state priority because an accidental or deliberate contamination of food or crops could be detrimental to the state's economy and would undermine consumer confidence in the integrity of food safety in this state;

(3) the growing and processing of fresh fruits and vegetables is crucial to this state, and since September 11, 2001, awareness of the threat of contamination of those products has increased; and

(4) this state should increase awareness of food safety among its growers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables to avoid disastrous events.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 91, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 91.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 91.009. COORDINATION OF FOOD SAFETY. (a) The

department is the lead agency for education and training and shall assist the fresh fruit and vegetable industries with food safety issues and may provide assistance to federal agencies in their implementation of voluntary guidelines relating to sound agricultural practices.

(b) The department shall coordinate, plan, and approve training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables. A program under this subsection must inform and educate producers and packers regarding:

- (1) sound agricultural practices;
- (2) proper food handling procedures;
- (3) the prevention of accidental or deliberately planned outbreaks of disease; and
- (4) the enhancement of overall food safety.

(c) The department shall coordinate the planning and implementation of programs required by Subsection (b) with:

- (1) colleges and universities in this state;
- (2) the Texas AgriLife Extension Service;
- (3) Texas AgriLife Research;
- (4) the Department of State Health Services; and
- (5) private industry.

(d) The department may adopt rules to implement this section. In the development of rules for the certification of approved food safety curriculum or training, the department shall consult and coordinate with the Department of State Health Services.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 12, 2009

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1908 by King, Tracy O. (Relating to the safety of the fresh fruit and vegetables produced in this state.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would name the Department of Agriculture (TDA) as the lead agency for education and training in the coordination of food safety and require the agency to assist the fresh fruit and vegetable industries with food safety issues. The bill would also require TDA to coordinate, plan, and approve training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables.

TDA indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; otherwise it would take effect September 1, 2009.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 537 State Health Services, Department of, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: JOB, SZ, AH, SD

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 1, 2009

TO: Honorable Craig Estes, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Affairs

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1908 by King, Tracy O. (Relating to the safety of the fresh fruit and vegetables produced in this state.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would name the Department of Agriculture (TDA) as the lead agency for education and training in the coordination of food safety and require the agency to assist the fresh fruit and vegetable industries with food safety issues. The bill would also require TDA to coordinate, plan, and approve training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables.

TDA indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; otherwise it would take effect September 1, 2009.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 537 State Health Services, Department of, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: JOB, SZ, AH, SD

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 27, 2009

TO: Honorable Craig Estes, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Affairs

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1908 by King, Tracy O. (Relating to the safety of the fresh fruit and vegetables produced in this state.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would name the Department of Agriculture (TDA) as the lead agency in the coordination of food safety and require the agency to assist the fresh fruit and vegetable industries with food safety issues. The bill would also require TDA to coordinate, plan, and approve training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables.

TDA indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; otherwise it would take effect September 1, 2009.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 537 State Health Services, Department of, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: JOB, SD, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 16, 2009

TO: Honorable Yvonne Gonzalez Toureilles, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1908 by King, Tracy O. (Relating to the safety of the fresh fruit and vegetables produced in this state.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would name the Department of Agriculture (TDA) as the lead agency in the coordination of food safety and require the agency to assist the fresh fruit and vegetable industries with food safety issues. The bill would also require TDA to coordinate, plan, and approve training and awareness programs for producers and packers of fresh fruits and vegetables.

TDA indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; otherwise it would take effect September 1, 2009.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 537 State Health Services, Department of, 551 Department of Agriculture

LBB Staff: JOB, WK, AH

