

AN ACT

relating to the search for and rescue of victims of water-oriented accidents.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31.121, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (e) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) In this section:

(1) "Game warden" means a person who is commissioned as a game warden by the commission.

(2) "State military forces" has the meaning assigned by Section 431.001, Government Code.

(a-1) All peace officers of this state and game wardens ~~[commissioned by the commission]~~ must be certified as marine safety enforcement officers by the department to enforce the provisions of this chapter by arresting and taking into custody any person who commits any act or offense prohibited by this chapter or who violates any provision of this chapter.

(e) State military forces may assist game ~~[Game]~~ wardens ~~[may assist]~~ in the search for and rescue of victims of water-oriented accidents.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

H.B. No. 2138

1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2138 was passed by the House on April 21, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 148, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2138 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor