

By: Rodriguez

S.B. No. 524

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a study regarding the prohibition of dairy farming in  
3 certain areas of the state.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) In this Act:

6 (1) "Commission" means the Texas Animal Health  
7 Commission.

8 (2) "Department" means the Department of State Health  
9 Services.

10 (b) The commission shall conduct a study regarding the  
11 current risk level for bovine tuberculosis, as determined  
12 epidemiologically and defined by rule of the commission, in areas  
13 of this state determined by the commission by rule to be infected  
14 with or at high risk for bovine tuberculosis.

15 (c) Not later than September 1, 2014, the commission shall  
16 submit a report regarding the results of the study to the Department  
17 of Agriculture, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the House  
18 Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, the Senate Committee on  
19 Agriculture, Rural Affairs, and Homeland Security, the House  
20 Committee on Public Health, and the Senate Committee on Health and  
21 Human Services. The report must include:

22 (1) to the extent possible, an assessment of the risk  
23 level for bovine tuberculosis presented by areas in Mexico  
24 bordering this state;

1           (2) to the extent possible, a description of the  
2 efforts taken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural  
3 Development, Fisheries and Food and other agencies of the United  
4 Mexican States to eliminate bovine tuberculosis in the state of  
5 Chihuahua and other areas;

6           (3) a description of the current practices adopted by  
7 the United States Department of Agriculture and the commission to  
8 eliminate bovine tuberculosis;

9           (4) an assessment of the risk level for bovine  
10 tuberculosis for the state if dairy farming were to occur in areas  
11 determined by the commission by rule to be infected with or at high  
12 risk for bovine tuberculosis; and

13           (5) an assessment of whether the areas determined by  
14 the commission by rule to be infected with or at high risk for  
15 bovine tuberculosis could be decreased in size.

16           (d) As soon as practicable, the commission shall present the  
17 report regarding the results of the study at an open meeting of the  
18 commission.

19           (e) This Act expires October 1, 2014.

20           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.