

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 3279

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 66, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 66.024 to read as follows:

Sec. 66.024. SEAGRASS PLANTS. (a) In this section, "seagrass plant" means a flowering marine plant of the species:

(1) Cymodocea filiformis, known as manatee grass;

(2) Halodule beaudettei, known as shoal grass;

(3) Halophila engelmannii, known as star grass or Engelmann's seagrass;

(4) Ruppia maritima, known as widgeon grass; or

(5) Thalassia testudinum, known as turtle grass.

(b) A person may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass plant from a bay bottom or other saltwater bottom area in the jurisdiction of this state by means of a propeller, except as that uprooting or digging out may be authorized by:

(1) a coastal lease granted by the General Land Office; or

(2) a commercial license or permit issued by the department.

(c) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that a person:

(1) anchors a vessel within an area containing

1 seagrass plants and uproots a seagrass plant;

2 (2) uses an electric trolling motor within an area
3 containing seagrass plants and uproots a seagrass plant; or

4 (3) operates a vessel in a manner consistent with the
5 acceleration required to reach and stay on plane.

6 (d) A person who violates this section or a proclamation of
7 the commission under this section commits an offense that is a Class
8 C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

ADOPTED

MAY 20 2013

By: Ilene Hegar

Ilene Hegar
Secretary of State
H.B. No. 3279

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3279:

By: P. Thiel

C.S. H.B. No. 3279

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an
3 offense.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 66, Parks and Wildlife
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 66.024 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 66.024. SEAGRASS PLANTS. (a) In this section,

8 "seagrass plant" means a flowering marine plant of the species:

9 (1) Cymodocea filiformis, known as manatee grass;

10 (2) Halodule beaudettei or Halodule wrightii, known
11 as shoal grass;

12 (3) Halophila engelmannii, known as star grass or
13 Engelmann's seagrass;

14 (4) Ruppia maritima, known as widgeon grass; or

15 (5) Thalassia testudinum, known as turtle grass.

16 (b) A person may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass
17 plant from a bay bottom or other saltwater bottom area in the
18 jurisdiction of this state by means of a propeller, except as
19 that uprooting or digging out may be authorized by a commercial
20 license or permit issued by the department.

21 (c) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that
22 a person:

23 (1) anchors a vessel within an area containing
24 seagrass plants and uproots a seagrass plant;

1 (2) uses an electric trolling motor within an area
2 containing seagrass plants and uproots a seagrass plant; or

3 (3) operates a vessel in a manner consistent with the
4 acceleration required to reach and stay on plane.

5 (d) A person who violates this section or a proclamation
6 of the commission under this section commits an offense that is
7 a Class C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 21, 2013

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

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3279 by Morrison (Relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.),
As Passed 2nd House

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants. Under bill provisions, an individual may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass through the use of a propeller unless the individual has been issued a commercial license or permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). Violation of bill provisions would be a Class C Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor. TPWD indicates any duties resulting in costs or any violations resulting in revenue under bill provisions are not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication on the department.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: UP, TB, SZ, KJo, SD

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 14, 2013

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

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3279 by Morrison (Relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.),
Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants. Under bill provisions, an individual may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass through the use of a propeller unless the individual has been issued a commercial license or permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). Violation of bill provisions would be a Class C Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor. TPWD indicates any duties resulting in costs or any violations resulting in revenue under bill provisions are not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication on the department.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: UP, TB, SZ, KJo, SD

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 13, 2013

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

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3279 by Morrison (Relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.),
As Engrossed

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants. Under bill provisions, an individual may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass through the use of a propeller unless the individual has been issued a commercial license or permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD); or as granted by the General Land Office through a coastal lease. Violation of bill provisions would be a Class C Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor. TPWD indicates any duties resulting in costs or any violations resulting in revenue under bill provisions are not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication on the department.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: UP, SZ, KJo, SD, TB

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 6, 2013

TO: Honorable Ryan Guillen, Chair, House Committee on Culture, Recreation & Tourism

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3279 by Morrison (Relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.),
Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants. Under bill provisions, an individual may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass through the use of a propeller unless the individual has been issued a commercial license or permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD); or as granted by the General Land Office through a coastal lease. Violation of bill provisions would be a Class C Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor. TPWD indicates any duties resulting in costs or any violations resulting in revenue under bill provisions are not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication on the department.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: UP, KJo, SD, TB

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 23, 2013

TO: Honorable Ryan Guillen, Chair, House Committee on Culture, Recreation & Tourism

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3279 by Morrison (Relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants; creating an offense.),
As Introduced

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the uprooting of seagrass plants. Under bill provisions, an individual may not uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass through the use of a propeller unless the individual has been issued a commercial license or permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD); or as granted by the General Land Office through a coastal lease. Violation of bill provisions would be a Class C Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor. TPWD indicates any duties resulting in costs or any violations resulting in revenue under bill provisions are not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication on the department.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: UP, KJo, TB