

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1977

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of hunting license fees to help feed hungry  
Texans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.032(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

(b) The department shall deposit to the credit of the game,  
fish, and water safety account all revenue, less allowable costs,  
from the following sources:

(1) all types of fishing licenses and stamps and  
shrimping licenses, except as provided by Section 77.120;

(2) all types of hunting licenses and stamps, except  
as provided by Section 11.0342;

(3) trapping licenses and other licenses relating to  
the taking, propagation, and sale of fur-bearing animals or their  
pelts;

(4) sale of marl, sand, gravel, shell, and mudshell;

(5) oyster bed rentals and permits;

(6) federal funds received for fish and wildlife  
research, management, development and conservation, resource  
protection, and law enforcement, unless the funds are received for  
the specific purposes of Subchapter F, Chapter 77;

(7) sale of property, less advertising costs,  
purchased from this account or a special fund or account that is now

1 part of this account;

2 (8) fines and penalties collected for violations of a  
3 law pertaining to the protection and conservation of wild birds,  
4 wild fowl, wild animals, fish, shrimp, oysters, game birds and  
5 animals, fur-bearing animals, alligators, and any other wildlife  
6 resources of this state;

7 (9) sale of rough fish by the department;

8 (10) fees for importation permits;

9 (11) fees from supplying fish for or placing fish in  
10 water located on private property;

11 (12) sale of seized pelts;

12 (13) sale or lease of grazing rights to and the  
13 products from game preserves, sanctuaries, and management areas;

14 (14) contracts for the removal of fur-bearing animals  
15 and reptiles from wildlife management areas;

16 (15) vessel registration fees;

17 (16) vessel manufacturer or dealer licensing fees;

18 (17) fines or penalties imposed by a court for  
19 violation of water safety laws contained in Chapter 31 of this code;

20 (18) alligator hunter's or alligator buyer's licenses;

21 (19) sale of alligators or any part of an alligator by  
22 the department;

23 (20) fees and revenue collected under Section  
24 [11.027](#)(b) or (c) of this code that are associated with the  
25 conservation of fish and wildlife;

26 (21) any other source provided by law; and

27 (22) vessel and outboard motor titling fees.

1 SECTION 2. Section 11.033(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (b) Except as provided by Section 11.0342, the [The]  
4 department may use money from license fees paid by hunters and  
5 fishermen only for those functions required to manage the fish and  
6 wildlife resources of this state.

7 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 11, Parks and Wildlife  
8 Code, is amended by adding Section 11.0342 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 11.0342. HUNTING LICENSE TRUST FUND FOR HUNGRY TEXANS.

10 (a) The hunting license trust fund for hungry Texans is created as  
11 a trust fund outside the state treasury to be held with the  
12 comptroller in trust.

13 (b) The department shall administer the hunting license  
14 trust fund for hungry Texans and shall deposit to the credit of the  
15 trust fund one percent of the revenue received from all types of  
16 hunting licenses and stamps after deducting costs incurred by the  
17 department in administering this section.

18 (c) Not later than November 1 of each year, the department  
19 shall allocate all of the money deposited in the trust fund during  
20 the preceding 12-month period to a nonprofit organization,  
21 designated by the commission, whose purposes include the  
22 administration of a statewide program that provides hunters with a  
23 way to donate legally harvested deer to local food assistance  
24 providers. The program must include the recruitment of meat  
25 processors who, for a nominal fee to cover processing costs,  
26 process and package the venison and contact the food assistance  
27 providers to pick up the venison.

1       (d) Money received by the nonprofit organization under this  
2 section may be used only to administer, operate, support, and  
3 promote the program described by Subsection (c).

4       (e) The nonprofit organization shall submit an annual  
5 report to the legislature and the department that includes the  
6 total dollar amount of money received by the organization under  
7 this section.

8       (f) The commission may adopt rules to implement this  
9 section, including rules related to processes for the selection,  
10 inspection, and periodic review of the nonprofit organization.

11       SECTION 4. The commission shall designate a nonprofit  
12 organization to receive the money under Section 11.0342, Parks and  
13 Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 15,  
14 2015.

15       SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.