

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1978

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a voluntary contribution to help feed hungry Texans when a person applies for a hunting license.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 42, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 42.011 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.011. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO HELP FEED HUNGRY TEXANS. (a) When a person applies for a hunting license of any type under this chapter, the person may contribute \$1 or more to a nonprofit organization, designated by the commission, whose purposes include the administration of a statewide program that provides hunters with a way to donate legally harvested deer to local food assistance providers. The program must include the recruitment of meat processors who, for a nominal fee to cover processing costs, process and package the venison and contact the food assistance providers to pick up the venison.

(b) The department shall:

(1) include space on each application for a hunting license that allows a person applying for the license to indicate the amount that the person is voluntarily contributing to the nonprofit organization; and

(2) provide an opportunity for a person to contribute to the nonprofit organization during the application process for a hunting license on the department's Internet website.

1 (c) After deducting the department's administrative costs,
2 the department shall hold in trust the remainder of the amount a
3 person contributes under this section to the nonprofit
4 organization. Not later than November 1 of each year, the
5 department shall send the money held in trust to the nonprofit
6 organization.

7 (d) Money received by the nonprofit organization under this
8 section may be used only to administer, operate, support, and
9 promote the program described by Subsection (a).

10 (e) The nonprofit organization shall submit an annual
11 report to the legislature and the department that includes the
12 total dollar amount of contributions received by the organization
13 under this section.

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

17 SECTION 2. The commission shall designate a nonprofit
18 organization to receive the donations under Section 42.011, Parks
19 and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, not later than September
20 15, 2015.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.