

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 103
By: Stephenson
Agriculture & Livestock
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Interested parties assert that some Texans improperly dispose of unwanted pesticides or store such pesticides in unsafe conditions due to the lack of organized collection activities that allow for the responsible disposal of pesticide waste. H.B. 103 seeks to address this issue by providing for statewide pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 103 amends the Agriculture Code to require the Department of Agriculture (TDA), in coordination with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, to organize pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities statewide. The bill authorizes the TDA and the extension service to contract for the services of contractors to implement the collection activities and facilitate the collection of canceled, unregistered, or otherwise unwanted pesticide products and pesticide containers. The bill establishes the pesticide disposal fund as a fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund to be administered by the TDA and composed of money deposited to the credit of the fund from pesticide registration fees and interest earned on the investment of money in the fund. The bill requires the TDA to annually deposit to the credit of the fund from pesticide registration fees an amount not to exceed \$400,000 to cover the cost of administering the collection activities and restricts appropriation of money in the fund to the purposes of the collection activities.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2017.