

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 1098

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the importation of Pacific oysters for sale for consumption.

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

SECTION 1. Section 66.007, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (o) to read as follows:

(a) No person may import, possess, sell, or place into the public water of this state exotic harmful or potentially harmful fish or shellfish except as authorized by Subsection (o) or a rule or permit issued by the department.

(o) A person may import and possess unshucked Pacific oysters only if the person holds a wholesale fish dealer's license or a retail fish dealer's license. A person may possess and sell for consumption unshucked Pacific oysters only if the person holds a retail fish dealer's license or the person is a restaurant owner, operator, or employee who purchased the oysters from a person who holds a wholesale fish dealer's license. A person possessing Pacific oysters may not place a Pacific oyster in the public water of this state.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.