

By: Hunter

H.B. No. 3807

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the use of lifeguards and informational signs to
3 improve safety on public beaches.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 61.065, Natural Resources Code, is
6 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

7 (c) As part of the duty under this section to clean and
8 maintain the condition of public beaches, a municipality shall:

9 (1) during reasonable daylight hours for the months of
10 March through November, provide occupied lifeguard towers on each
11 side of each pier, jetty, or other structure that protrudes into the
12 Gulf of Mexico that is located within the corporate boundaries; and

13 (2) post within 100 yards of each side of each
14 structure described by Subdivision (1) signs clearly describing the
15 dangerous water conditions that may occur near the structure.

16 SECTION 2. Section 61.066, Natural Resources Code, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Sec. 61.066. DUTY OF COUNTY. (a) It is the duty and
19 responsibility of the commissioners court of any county located or
20 bordering on the Gulf of Mexico to clean and maintain the condition
21 of all public beaches located inside the county but outside the
22 boundaries of any incorporated city located or bordering on the
23 Gulf of Mexico and all public beaches owned by the county and
24 located inside the boundaries of an incorporated city, town, or

1 village.

2 (b) As part of the duty under this section to clean and
3 maintain the condition of public beaches, a county shall:

4 (1) during reasonable daylight hours for the months of
5 March through November, provide occupied lifeguard towers on each
6 side of each pier, jetty, or other structure that protrudes into the
7 Gulf of Mexico that is located on a public beach described by
8 Subsection (a); and

9 (2) post within 100 yards of each side of each
10 structure described by Subdivision (1) signs clearly describing the
11 dangerous water conditions that may occur near the structure.

12 SECTION 3. Section 61.067, Natural Resources Code, is
13 amended by adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

14 (a-2) As part of the duty under this section to clean and
15 maintain the condition of public beaches located within state
16 parks, the department shall:

17 (1) during reasonable daylight hours for the months of
18 March through November, provide occupied lifeguard towers on each
19 side of each pier, jetty, or other structure that protrudes into the
20 Gulf of Mexico that is located within a state park; and

21 (2) post within 100 yards of each side of each
22 structure described by Subdivision (1) signs clearly describing the
23 dangerous water conditions that may occur near the structure.

24 SECTION 4. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Parks and Wildlife
25 Code, is amended by adding Section 13.023 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 13.023. LIFEGUARDS AND SIGNAGE IN CERTAIN AREAS. The
27 department shall:

1 (1) during reasonable daylight hours for the months of
2 March through November, provide occupied lifeguard towers on each
3 side of each pier, jetty, or other structure that protrudes into the
4 Gulf of Mexico that is located within a state park; and

5 (2) post within 100 yards of each side of each
6 structure described by Subdivision (1) signs clearly describing the
7 dangerous water conditions that may occur near the structure.

8 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.