

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the animals classified as dangerous wild animals.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section [822.101\(4\)](#), Health and Safety Code, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (4) "Dangerous wild animal" means:

7 (A) a lion;

8 (B) a tiger;

9 (C) an ocelot;

10 (D) [~~a cougar,~~

11 [~~(E)~~] a leopard;

12 (E) [~~(F)~~] a cheetah;

13 (F) [~~(G)~~] a jaguar;

14 [~~(H) a bobcat,~~

15 (G) [~~(I)~~] a lynx;

16 (H) [~~(J)~~] a serval;

17 (I) [~~(K)~~] a caracal;

18 (J) [~~(L)~~] a hyena;

19 (K) [~~(M)~~] a bear;

20 [~~(N) a coyote,~~

21 (L) [~~(O)~~] a jackal;

22 (M) [~~(P)~~] a baboon;

23 (N) [~~(Q)~~] a chimpanzee;

24 (O) [~~(R)~~] an orangutan;

1            (P) [~~(S)~~] a gorilla; or  
2            (Q) [~~(T)~~] any hybrid of an animal listed in this  
3 subdivision.

4            SECTION 2. Section 822.102(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6            (a) This subchapter does not apply to:

7            (1) a county, municipality, or agency of the state or  
8 an agency of the United States or an agent or official of a county,  
9 municipality, or agency acting in an official capacity;

10           (2) a research facility, as that term is defined by  
11 Section 2(e), Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2132), and its  
12 subsequent amendments, that is licensed by the secretary of  
13 agriculture of the United States under that Act;

14           (3) an organization that is an accredited member of  
15 the Association of Zoos and Aquariums;

16           (4) an injured, infirm, orphaned, or abandoned  
17 dangerous wild animal while being transported for care or  
18 treatment;

19           (5) an injured, infirm, orphaned, or abandoned  
20 dangerous wild animal while being rehabilitated, treated, or cared  
21 for by a licensed veterinarian, an incorporated humane society or  
22 animal shelter, or a person who holds a rehabilitation permit  
23 issued under Subchapter C, Chapter 43, Parks and Wildlife Code;

24           (6) a dangerous wild animal owned by and in the custody  
25 and control of a transient circus company that is not based in this  
26 state if:

27                (A) the animal is used as an integral part of the

1 circus performances; and

2 (B) the animal is kept within this state only  
3 during the time the circus is performing in this state or for a  
4 period not to exceed 30 days while the circus is performing outside  
5 the United States;

6 (7) a dangerous wild animal while in the temporary  
7 custody or control of a television or motion picture production  
8 company during the filming of a television or motion picture  
9 production in this state;

10 (8) a dangerous wild animal owned by and in the  
11 possession, custody, or control of a college or university solely  
12 as a mascot for the college or university;

13 (9) a dangerous wild animal while being transported in  
14 interstate commerce through the state in compliance with the Animal  
15 Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2131 et seq.) and its subsequent  
16 amendments and the regulations adopted under that Act;

17 (10) a nonhuman primate owned by and in the control and  
18 custody of a person whose only business is supplying nonhuman  
19 primates directly and exclusively to biomedical research  
20 facilities and who holds a Class "A" or Class "B" dealer's license  
21 issued by the secretary of agriculture of the United States under  
22 the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2131 et seq.) and its  
23 subsequent amendments; and

24 (11) a dangerous wild animal that is:

25 (A) owned by or in the possession, control, or  
26 custody of a person who is a participant in a species survival plan  
27 of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums for that species; and

1 (B) an integral part of that species survival  
2 plan [~~;~~ and

3 [~~(12) in a county west of the Pecos River that has a~~  
4 ~~population of less than 25,000, a cougar, bobcat, or coyote in the~~  
5 ~~possession, custody, or control of a person that has trapped the~~  
6 ~~cougar, bobcat, or coyote as part of a predator or depredation~~  
7 ~~control activity~~].

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.