By:  Hayes, et al. (Senate Sponsor - LaMantia) H.B. No. 2568

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2023; May 5, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 12, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 12, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Perry           X

Hancock         X

Blanco          X

Flores          X

Gutierrez                 X

Johnson         X

Kolkhorst       X

Sparks          X

Springer        X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study of carrizo cane on the international border of this state.

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

SECTION 1.  DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

(1)  "Board" means the State Soil and Water Conservation Board.

(2)  "Carrizo cane" means the invasive species of giant reed with the scientific name Arundo donax.

(3)  "Program" means the carrizo cane eradication program under Section 201.0225, Agriculture Code.

SECTION 2.  CARRIZO CANE STUDY. (a) The board shall conduct a study of the extent of the growth of carrizo cane along the Rio Grande to assist the board in administering the program.

(b)  In conducting the study, the board shall determine:

(1)  the acreage of carrizo cane remaining along the Rio Grande; and

(2)  the program's cost of eradicating the carrizo cane identified in the study.

SECTION 3.  REPORT. Not later than January 1, 2025, the board shall report the results of the study conducted under this Act and any recommendations to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives that have jurisdiction over natural resources.

SECTION 4.  EXPIRATION.  This Act expires February 1, 2025.

SECTION 5.  EFFECTIVE DATE.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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