

By: Vasut

H.B. No. 4616

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notifications by the Texas Department of Agriculture concerning a stop-sale order, seizure, or destruction of certain plant or animal products.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Sec. 12.051. to read as follows:

Sec. 12.051. NOTIFICATION OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN BY DEPARTMENT. (a) The Department shall report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and the appropriate legislative oversight committees each time the Department issues a stop-sale order or otherwise seizes, bars the sale of, or destroys any plant or animal product.

(b) A notification subject to Subsection (a) shall be made within 24 hours of the issuance of the applicable order or the action taken and shall include the following information:

(1) the date and time of the order or action taken;

(2) the location of the plant or animal product seized, barred from sale, or destroyed;

(3) the reason(s) for the issuance of the order or action taken, including the agency rule and statute used as justification for the issuance of the order or action taken;

(4) the type and quantity of plant or animal product seized, barred from sale, or destroyed;

1 (5) the name and contact information of the owner or
2 operator of the plant or animal product, if known;

3 (6) the name and contact information of the inspector
4 or other person responsible for the order or action taken; and,

5 (7) any other information deemed relevant by the
6 Department.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.