

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 237

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 237:

By: Kitzman

C.S.H.B. No. 237

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an interstate compact for animal health initiatives.

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

SECTION 1. Title 10, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 830 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 830. INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR ANIMAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

Sec. 830.001. AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP AND EXECUTE COMPACT. On behalf of this state, the governor shall develop and execute an interstate compact for animal health initiatives among interested states.

Sec. 830.002. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED. (a) It is the intent of the legislature that the compact developed and executed under this chapter not require congressional approval.

(b) The compact may not increase the political power of the compacting states in relation to the federal government.

Sec. 830.003. INTERSTATE COMPACT PROVISIONS. (a) The compact authorized by this chapter must provide for joint action among compacting states on matters that include:

(1) sharing state resources in order to build a research center, a comprehensive surveillance system, and a response plan to prevent or treat animal disease outbreaks, including diseases caused by parasitic insects, in this state;

(2) sharing other animal health resources to ensure the protection of livestock, wildlife, and other animals; and

1 (3) providing mutual support for the infrastructure,
2 equipment, software, personnel, and other resources that are
3 necessary or convenient to ensure the purposes described by this
4 section are adequately supported and achieved.

5 (b) The compact authorized by this chapter may, at the
6 discretion of each compacting state, provide for joint action among
7 the compacting states on the execution and enforcement of
8 agreements or memoranda of understanding with the United States
9 Department of Agriculture, the United States Food and Drug
10 Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency,
11 or any other federal agency for the purpose of protecting and
12 researching animal health.

13 (c) The compact may authorize the transfer of money from
14 other compacting states to this state for the purpose of supporting
15 animal health research and response activities. Any money received
16 under this subsection must be deposited to the credit of a separate
17 fund to be used only for expenses related to the planning,
18 development, operation, or coordination of animal health
19 initiatives undertaken in accordance with this compact.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
25 legislative session.