

AN ACT

relating to honey production operations and the harvesting and packaging of honey and honeycomb.

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

SECTION 1. Section 437.001(7), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(7) "Honey [~~Small honey~~] production operation" means a beekeeper that

~~[(A) produces less than 2,500 pounds of honey each year;~~

~~[(B)] sells or distributes [the] honey or honeycomb [that] the beekeeper produces [either personally or with the help of the beekeeper's immediate family members;~~

~~[(C) only sells or distributes honey or honeycomb;~~

~~[(i) that is produced from a hive that is:~~

~~[(a) located in the state; and~~

~~[(b) owned and managed by the beekeeper;~~

~~[(ii)] that is~~ or from which is extracted pure honey as defined by Section 131.001, Agriculture Code, ~~[and]~~ that is raw and not blended with any other product or otherwise adulterated~~[, and~~

~~[(iii) directly to consumers at the~~

~~beekeeper's home, a farmer's market, a farm stand, or a municipal, county, or nonprofit fair, festival, or event, and~~

~~[(D) delivers the honey or honeycomb that the beekeeper produces to the consumer at the point of sale or another location designated by the consumer].~~

SECTION 2. Sections 437.0197, 437.0198, and 437.0199, Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 437.0197. EXEMPTION FOR ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY PRODUCTION OPERATION. A ~~[small]~~ honey production operation is not a food service establishment for purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 437.0198. REGULATION OF ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY PRODUCTION OPERATION PROHIBITED. A local government authority, including a local health department, may not regulate the production of honey or honeycomb at a ~~[small]~~ honey production operation.

Sec. 437.0199. LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY PRODUCTION OPERATION. Honey or honeycomb sold or distributed by a ~~[small]~~ honey production operation must be labeled in accordance with Subchapter E, Chapter 131, Agriculture Code. ~~[The label must include:~~

~~[(1) the net weight of the honey expressed in both the avoirdupois and metric systems,~~

~~[(2) the beekeeper's name and address, and~~

~~[(3) the statement "Bottled or packaged in a facility not inspected by the Texas Department of State Health Services."]~~

SECTION 3. Chapter 437, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 437.01991 to read as follows:

Sec. 437.01991. HONEY AS RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY. (a)

1 In this section, "raw agricultural commodity" has the meaning
2 assigned by Section 431.002.

3 (b) For purposes of this subtitle and other applicable law,
4 a honey production operation that:

5 (1) extracts honey from honeycomb is harvesting a raw
6 agricultural commodity; and

7 (2) bottles extracted honey and packages cut honeycomb
8 is packaging a raw agricultural commodity without necessitating any
9 additional manufacturing or processing.

10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 519 was passed by the House on April 30, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 105, Nays 32, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 519 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor