

1-1 By: González of El Paso, et al. H.B. No. 519
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Kolthorst)
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 30, 2025;
1-4 May 6, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
1-5 Agriculture and Rural Affairs; May 19, 2025, reported favorably by
1-6 the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 19, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	Perry	X		
1-10	Hancock	X		
1-11	Birdwell		X	
1-12	Blanco	X		
1-13	Gutierrez	X		
1-14	Hinojosa of Nueces	X		
1-15	Johnson	X		
1-16	Kolthorst	X		
1-17	Sparks	X		

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to honey production operations and the harvesting and
1-21 packaging of honey and honeycomb.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 437.001(7), Health and Safety Code, is
1-24 amended to read as follows:

1-25 (7) "Honey [~~Small honey~~] production operation" means a
1-26 beekeeper that ~~that~~

1-27 ~~[(A) produces less than 2,500 pounds of honey~~
1-28 ~~each year;~~

1-29 ~~[(B)] sells or distributes [the] honey or~~
1-30 ~~honeycomb [that] the beekeeper produces [either personally or with~~
1-31 ~~the help of the beekeeper's immediate family members;~~

1-32 ~~[(C) only sells or distributes honey or~~
1-33 ~~honeycomb;~~

1-34 ~~[(i) that is produced from a hive that is:~~

1-35 ~~[(a) located in the state; and~~

1-36 ~~[(b) owned and managed by the~~

1-37 ~~beekeeper;~~

1-38 ~~[(ii)] that is or from which is extracted~~

1-39 pure honey as defined by Section 131.001, Agriculture Code, ~~[and]~~

1-40 that is raw and not blended with any other product or otherwise

1-41 adulterated~~[, and~~

1-42 ~~[(iii) directly to consumers at the~~

1-43 ~~beekeeper's home, a farmer's market, a farm stand, or a municipal,~~

1-44 ~~county, or nonprofit fair, festival, or event; and~~

1-45 ~~[(D) delivers the honey or honeycomb that the~~

1-46 ~~beekeeper produces to the consumer at the point of sale or another~~

1-47 ~~location designated by the consumer].~~

1-48 SECTION 2. Sections 437.0197, 437.0198, and 437.0199,

1-49 Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-50 Sec. 437.0197. EXEMPTION FOR ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY PRODUCTION

1-51 OPERATION. A ~~[small]~~ honey production operation is not a food

1-52 service establishment for purposes of this chapter.

1-53 Sec. 437.0198. REGULATION OF ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY PRODUCTION

1-54 OPERATION PROHIBITED. A local government authority, including a

1-55 local health department, may not regulate the production of honey

1-56 or honeycomb at a ~~[small]~~ honey production operation.

1-57 Sec. 437.0199. LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR ~~[SMALL]~~ HONEY

1-58 PRODUCTION OPERATION. Honey or honeycomb sold or distributed by a

1-59 ~~[small]~~ honey production operation must be labeled in accordance

1-60 with Subchapter E, Chapter 131, Agriculture Code. ~~[The label must~~

1-61 ~~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)
In this section, "raw agricultural commodity" has the meaning
assigned by Section [431.002](#).

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

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

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

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

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