

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  | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-10 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-11 |     |     | X      |     |
| 1-12 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-13 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-14 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-15 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-16 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-17 | 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 ~~+~~

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:~~

2-1 [~~(1) the net weight of the honey expressed in both the~~  
2-2 ~~avoirdupois and metric systems,~~  
2-3 [~~(2) the beekeeper's name and address, and~~  
2-4 [~~(3) the statement "Bottled or packaged in a facility~~  
2-5 ~~not inspected by the Texas Department of State Health Services."~~]

2-6 SECTION 3. Chapter 437, Health and Safety Code, is amended  
2-7 by adding Section 437.01991 to read as follows:

2-8 Sec. 437.01991. HONEY AS RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY. (a)  
2-9 In this section, "raw agricultural commodity" has the meaning  
2-10 assigned by Section 431.002.

2-11 (b) For purposes of this subtitle and other applicable law,  
2-12 a honey production operation that:

2-13 (1) extracts honey from honeycomb is harvesting a raw  
2-14 agricultural commodity; and

2-15 (2) bottles extracted honey and packages cut honeycomb  
2-16 is packaging a raw agricultural commodity without necessitating any  
2-17 additional manufacturing or processing.

2-18 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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