

By: Plesa, Ashby

H.B. No. 1592

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an alert system for dangerous plant and wildlife pests and diseases administered by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 88, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 88.823 to read as follows:

Sec. 88.823. PEST, DISEASE, AND QUARANTINE ALERT SYSTEM.

(a) With the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture, the Texas Animal Health Commission, and the Parks and Wildlife Department, the extension service shall develop and implement a statewide Internet-based alert system for notifications related to wildlife and plant pests, diseases, and quarantines. The alert system must issue notifications for:

(1) a confirmed case of a dangerous plant or wildlife pest or disease;

(2) the establishment, modification, or removal of a pest or disease quarantine order; and

(3) any compliance agreements entered into with the Department of Agriculture related to a pest or disease quarantine.

(b) The alert system established under this section must:

(1) issue notifications through e-mail; and

(2) provide for enrollment in the alert system for delivery of a system notification.

1 (c) The extension service shall enter into a memorandum of
2 understanding with the Department of Agriculture, the Texas Animal
3 Health Commission, and the Parks and Wildlife Department to ensure
4 the extension service is able to issue a required notification
5 under Subsection (a) within 72 hours of an applicable action by
6 those agencies.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.