

By: Orr

H.B. No. 4543

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the removal of a fence surrounding a breeder deer
3 release site.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 43.361, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
6 amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

7 (c) The owner of land that is or was registered as a release
8 site with the department may remove a fence described by Subsection
9 (a) if:

20 (d) The department may not make the certification described
21 by Subsection (c)(4) unless the department has a confidence level
22

(1) 95 percent that chronic wasting disease is not

1 testing period, if:

2 (A) the release site has no connection to a
3 facility on which chronic wasting disease has been detected;
4 (B) all deer released on the site display visible
5 identification allowing for individual identification at a
6 distance; and

7 (C) the site has complied with all applicable
8 commission rules and department registration and permitting
9 requirements and has not had any violations relating to a permit
10 described by Section 12.601; or

11 (2) 99 percent that chronic wasting disease is not
12 present at greater than one percent prevalence over a five-year
13 testing period, if the release site:

14 (A) has not more than a trace connection to a
15 facility on which chronic wasting disease has been detected; and
16 (B) otherwise does not satisfy the requirements
17 of Subdivisions (1)(A)-(C).

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