

By: Perry

S.B. No. 1248

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disclosure of certain harvest report information submitted to the Parks and Wildlife Department.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 11, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 11.0305 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.0305. DISCLOSURE OF HARVEST REPORT INFORMATION.

(a) Information from a report submitted to the department relating to the recreational harvest authorized by Chapter 42, 46, 50, or 71 of game animals, game birds, fur-bearing animals, nongame animals, alligators, or fish or other aquatic life, including the specific location of harvested wildlife, may not be disclosed except as authorized by this section or Section 12.014.

(b) Chapter 552, Government Code, does not apply to information from a report described by Subsection (a).

(c) The commission or the department may disclose information from a report described by Subsection (a) to a federal or state law enforcement agency if the agency provides a lawfully issued subpoena.

(d) The department may disclose statistical data and compilations of information from a report described by Subsection (a) in a manner that does not identify:

(1) any person who:

(A) submitted the report; or

1                   (B) harvested wildlife as described in the  
2 report; or

3                   (2) any specific location information, including a  
4 photograph, that could be used to identify the location where the  
5 harvest of wildlife described in the report occurred.

6                   (e) The department may disclose information from a report  
7 described by Subsection (a) only to:

8                   (1) an individual identified in the report or that  
9 individual's representative;

10                   (2) another governmental body, including a law  
11 enforcement entity, as needed to carry out a governmental purpose;  
12 or

13                   (3) an entity contracted with the department that has  
14 signed a nondisclosure agreement prohibiting the entity from  
15 disclosing information from the report, if necessary for research,  
16 analysis, or another activity the department determines to be  
17 appropriate.

18                   (f) This section does not authorize the department to  
19 disclose information the department is prohibited from disclosing  
20 by other law.

21                   (g) The department and its officers and employees are immune  
22 from civil liability for an unintentional violation of this  
23 section.

24                   (h) In this section, a reference to the department includes  
25 a reference to an agent of the department.

26                   SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to a  
27 disclosure by the Parks and Wildlife Department of information in a

1 report described by Section 11.0305(a), Parks and Wildlife Code, as  
2 added by this Act, that is made on or after the effective date of  
3 this Act, regardless of when the report containing the information  
4 was submitted to the department.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.