

1-1 By: Perry S.B. No. 2844
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 14, 2025; April 7, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture and
1-4 Rural Affairs; April 23, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
1-6 April 23, 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	Kolkhorst	X		
1-17	Sparks	X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2844 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the regulation of deer breeding; creating criminal
1-22 offenses.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 43.360, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-25 amended to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 43.360. ENCLOSURE SIZE. (a) Except as provided by
1-27 Subsection (b), a [A] single enclosure for breeder deer may not
1-28 contain more than 20 [100] acres.

1-29 (b) A single enclosure for breeder deer may contain not more
1-30 than 100 acres if:

1-31 (1) the deer breeding facility's permit was issued and
1-32 continuously maintained prior to September 1, 2025; and

1-33 (2) the permitted enclosure existed before September
1-34 1, 2025.

1-35 (c) A single enclosure for breeder deer in a facility
1-36 described by Subsection (b) may not be expanded to contain more than
1-37 20 acres.

1-38 SECTION 2. Section 43.365(a), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-39 amended to read as follows:

1-40 (a) It is an offense if a deer breeder or another person:

1-41 (1) allows the hunting or killing of a breeder deer or
1-42 any other deer held in captivity in a facility permitted under this
1-43 subchapter, except as provided by this subchapter or a rule adopted
1-44 by the commission under this subchapter; [ex]

1-45 (2) knowingly sells, arranges the sale of, purchases,
1-46 transfers, receives, or attempts to sell, arrange the sale of,
1-47 purchase, transfer, or receive a live breeder deer in violation of
1-48 this subchapter or a rule adopted by the commission under this
1-49 subchapter;

1-50 (3) places or holds breeder deer in captivity at any
1-51 place or in any facility not accounted for in the breeding facility
1-52 inventory on file with the department as required by commission
1-53 rule;

1-54 (4) fails to timely report the mortality of a breeder
1-55 deer as required by commission rule;

1-56 (5) fails to timely submit a disease test sample as
1-57 required by commission rule;

1-58 (6) violates or fails to comply with a disease testing
1-59 plan issued by the department under commission rule for a deer
1-60 breeding facility from which breeder deer have escaped;

(7) knowingly possesses a live deer acquired unlawfully;

(8) knowingly and unlawfully imports or attempts to import a deer;

(9) transfers a breeder deer that does not bear the identification required by Section 43.3561 or commission rule;

(10) transfers a breeder deer in violation of a commission rule requiring disease testing; or

(11) knowingly submits a disease test sample taken from a deer other than the breeder deer or deer identified as the deer from which the test sample was taken, unless the deer was misidentified due to a clerical error.

SECTION 3. The heading to Section 43.367, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 43.367. PENALTIES [~~PENALTY~~].

SECTION 4. Section 43.367, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) to read as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section [~~Subsection (b)~~], a person who violates a provision of this subchapter or a regulation of the commission issued under this subchapter or who fails to file a full and complete report as required by Section 43.359 commits an offense that is a Class C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

(c) A person who violates Section 43.361 or 43.365(a)(3), (4), (5), or (6) commits an offense that is a Class B Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the actor has been previously convicted of an offense under this section involving a violation of Section 43.361 or 43.365(a)(3), (4), (5), or (6).

(d) A person who violates Section 43.365(a)(7) or (8) commits an offense that is a Class B Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

(e) A person who violates Section 43.362 or 43.365(a)(9) commits an offense that is a Class A Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the actor has been previously convicted of an offense under this section involving a violation of Section 43.362 or 43.365(a)(9).

(f) A person who violates Section 43.365(a)(10) commits an offense that is a Class A Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor.

(g) A person who violates Section 43.365(a)(11) commits an offense that is a Parks and Wildlife Code state jail felony if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the actor has been previously convicted of an offense under this section involving a violation of Section 43.365(a)(11).

SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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