

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 21, 2025

TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB2844 by Perry (Relating to the regulation of deer breeding; creating criminal offenses.), **As Introduced**

The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined because the number of violations and offenses that would occur and the amount of penalties and fines that would be assessed and collected is unknown.

This bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

The bill would amend the Parks and Wildlife Code regarding deer breeder's permits by limiting the size of a single enclosure for breeder deer to 20 acres or less for permits issued after September 1, 2025. The bill would allow permitted enclosures existing existing before September 1, 2025 to continue to be limited to 100 acres; however, the bill would prohibit single enclosures permitted before September 1, 2025, from being expanded to contain more than 20 acres.

The bill would also create several new criminal offenses related to breeder deer with penalties ranging from a Class C Parks and Wildlife Code misdemeanor to a Parks and Wildlife Code state jail felony. Additionally, it would increase the offense level for certain other existing violations.

Based on analysis from the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the fiscal implication of the bill cannot be determined because the number of violations and offenses that would occur and the amount of penalties and fines that would be assessed and collected is unknown.

Based on analysis from Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), it is assumed that any costs associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

Based on analysis from the Office of Court Administration, no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

It is assumed that any impact on state correctional populations or on the demand for state correctional resources would not be significant.

Local Government Impact

It is assumed that any fiscal impact to units of local government associated with enforcement, prosecution, supervision, or confinement would not be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: JMc, FV, MW, RSTE