Chapter 77

S.B. No. 970

AN ACT
relating to the failure to handle certain animals in accordance
with rules of the Texas Animal Health Commission; amending
provisions subject to a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 161.041(c), Agriculture Code, is amended
to read as follows:

(c) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly
fails to handle, in accordance with rules adopted by the
commission, livestock, exotic livestock, domestic fowl, or exotic
fowl:

(1) infected with a disease listed in Subsection (a); and
(2) exposed, as defined by commission rule, to a
disease listed in Subsection (a) if the commission has notified the
person that the animal was exposed to the disease; or

(3) subject to a testing requirement due to a risk of
exposure, as defined by commission rule, to a specific disease if
the commission has notified the person of the testing requirement.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies 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
S.B. No. 970

1 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
2 before that date.
3
4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 970 passed the Senate on
April 9, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 970 passed the House on
May 8, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 132, Nays 0, two present
not voting.

Approved:

5-21-2015

Date

Greg Abbott

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
O'CLOCK

MAY 22, 2015

Secretary of State
TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB970 by Perry (relating to the failure to handle certain animals in accordance with rules of the Texas Animal Health Commission; amending provisions subject to a criminal penalty.), Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend portions of the Agriculture Code relating to animal disease control. The bill would expand the criteria for an offense relating to handling livestock and fowl to include animals that have been exposed to certain diseases or are subject to a specific testing requirement by rules adopted by the Animal Health Commission.

Based on the analysis of the Animal Health Commission, duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 554 Animal Health Commission
LBB Staff: UP, SZ, MWI
TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB970 by Perry (Relating to the failure to handle certain animals in accordance with rules of the Texas Animal Health Commission; imposing a criminal penalty.), As Introduced

| No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated. |

The bill would amend portions of the Agriculture Code relating to animal disease control. The bill would expand the criteria for the commission of an offense relating to handling livestock and fowl to include animals that have been exposed to certain diseases or the movement of which is restricted by rules adopted by the Animal Health Commission.

Based on the analysis of the Animal Health Commission, duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 554 Animal Health Commission
LBB Staff: UP, SZ, MWI