

**SUBJECT:** Permitting the propagation of breeder deer by cloning

**COMMITTEE:** Culture, Recreation and Tourism — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 6 ayes — K. King, Burns, Clardy, Frullo, Krause, Martinez

2 nays — Israel, C. Morales

1 present not voting — Gervin-Hawkins

**WITNESSES:** For — Jason Abraham, Wildlife Reflections; Blake Russell; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Elise Richardson, Texas Deer Association)

Against — Brian Treadwell; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Carrie Simmons, Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society; John Shepperd, Texas Foundation for Conservation; David Yeates, Texas Wildlife Association; Susana Carranza; Idona Griffith; Suzanne Mitchell)

On — John Silovsky, Texas Parks and Wildlife

**BACKGROUND:** Parks and Wildlife Code sec. 43.357 permits the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to regulate deer breeding.

**DIGEST:** HB 1781 would require the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (TPWC) to allow the holder of a valid deer breeder's permit to engage in the business of breeding breeder deer, including the propagation of breeder deer by cloning. TPWC would be able to make regulations governing the propagation of breeder deer by cloning.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.