

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R12510 JSC-D

H.B. 4006
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Agriculture & Rural Affairs
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Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Agriculture Code contains outdated language regarding requirements to report diseases to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC). The current statute authorizes TAHC to adopt rules requiring the reporting of diseases to TAHC if the disease is named on "List A" of the Office International Des Epizooties (OIE). However, the OIE no longer maintains "List A."

H.B. 4006 removes the reference to "List A" from the statute and specifies, in its place, a disease reportable to the OIE. The bill also adds three diseases to the list of diseases that must be reported to TAHC.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the Texas Animal Health Commission is modified in SECTION 1 (Section 161.101, Agriculture Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 161.101(a) and (b), Agriculture Code, as follows:

(a) Requires a veterinarian, a veterinary diagnostic laboratory, or a person having care, custody, or control of an animal to report the existence of certain diseases among livestock, exotic livestock, bison, domestic fowl, or exotic fowl to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) within 24 hours after diagnosis, including bovine trichomoniasis; equine herpes virus-1; and equine viral arteritis. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Requires TAHC, in addition to reporting required by Subsection (a), to adopt rules that require a veterinarian, a veterinary diagnostic laboratory, or a person having care, custody, or control of an animal to report the existence of a disease other than bluetongue in an animal to TAHC within 24 hours after diagnosis if the disease is a disease reportable to the Office International Des Epizooties, rather than is named on "List A" of the Office International Des Epizooties.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2009.