

1-1 By: Vasut (Senate Sponsor - Huffman) H.B. No. 3604
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2023;
1-3 May 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
1-4 Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 19, 2023, reported favorably by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Perry	X			
1-9	Hancock	X			
1-10	Blanco	X			
1-11	Flores	X			
1-12	Gutierrez	X			
1-13	Johnson	X			
1-14	Kolkhorst	X			
1-15	Sparks	X			
1-16	Springer	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the cleaning of a structure used to grow oysters for
1-20 cultivated oyster mariculture.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 26, Water Code, is amended
1-23 by adding Section 26.0406 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 26.0406. GENERAL PERMITS FOR AQUACULTURE; EXEMPTION
1-25 FOR CLEANING STRUCTURES USED FOR GROWING OYSTERS. (a) A general
1-26 permit for aquaculture issued by the commission must allow the
1-27 holder of a cultivated oyster mariculture permit under Chapter 75,
1-28 Parks and Wildlife Code, to discharge into waters of this state
1-29 waste related to the cleaning of a structure used to grow oysters
1-30 for cultivated oyster mariculture in accordance with Subsection
1-31 (b).

1-32 (b) A cultivated oyster mariculture permit holder cleaning
1-33 a structure as described by Subsection (a):

1-34 (1) must clean the structure at the location where the
1-35 permit holder is authorized to operate and only with water from that
1-36 location;

1-37 (2) prior to use in cleaning, may not alter the
1-38 cleaning water in any way, including with the addition of soap,
1-39 chemicals, or any other similar substance; and

1-40 (3) in consultation with the Texas Parks and Wildlife
1-41 Department, must comply with all other permit conditions
1-42 established by the commission.

1-43 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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