

1-1 By: Eckhardt S.B. No. 1285  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 14, 2025; February 28, 2025,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture and  
 1-4 Rural Affairs; April 29, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable  
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 1;  
 1-6 April 29, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10		X		
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1285 By: Hancock

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the protection of bats.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 63.101, Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
 1-24 amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection  
 1-25 (b-1) to read as follows:

1-26 (a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (c), a ~~no~~  
 1-27 person may not:

1-28 (1) entomb or hunt a live bat; or

1-29 (2) sell, offer for sale, purchase, offer to purchase,  
 1-30 or possess after purchase a bat or any part of a bat, dead or alive.

1-31 (b-1) A bat or bat colony using a building or structure not  
 1-32 occupied by people as a roost site may be controlled only by a  
 1-33 nonlethal exclusion method that allows bats to leave but not  
 1-34 reenter the building or structure. The exclusion method described  
 1-35 by this subsection may not be implemented during the period each  
 1-36 year beginning May 1 and ending August 31.

1-37 (c) This section does not apply to:

1-38 (1) an animal control officer, a peace officer, a  
 1-39 licensed pest control professional, or a health official who  
 1-40 captures a bat that the officer, professional, or official  
 1-41 considers injured or diseased; or

1-42 (2) a person who transports a bat for the purpose of:

1-43 (A) laboratory testing if the bat has exposed or  
 1-44 potentially exposed humans or domestic animals to rabies; or

1-45 (B) rehabilitation at a permitted rehabilitation  
 1-46 facility if the bat has had no known prior exposure with humans

1-47 ~~[(3) a person who is licensed to provide pest control~~  
 1-48 ~~services].~~

1-49 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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