

1-1 By: Kolkhorst S.B. No. 2031
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2025; March 17, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture and
1-4 Rural Affairs; April 22, 2025, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 22, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
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 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the removal of a fence surrounding a breeder deer
1-20 release site.

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

1-22 SECTION 1. Section [43.361](#), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
1-23 amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

1-24 (c) The owner of land that is or was registered as a release
1-25 site with the department may remove a fence described by Subsection
1-26 (a) if:

1-27 (1) at least five years have elapsed from the most
1-28 recent date breeder deer were released on the site;

1-29 (2) the owner notifies each adjacent landowner in the
1-30 form and manner prescribed by the department of the owner's
1-31 intention to remove the fence;

1-32 (3) the site has not more than a trace connection to a
1-33 facility on which chronic wasting disease has been detected; and

1-34 (4) the department certifies that no deer released on
1-35 the site has been epidemiologically associated with a positive
1-36 result of a test for chronic wasting disease.

1-37 (d) The department may not make the certification described
1-38 by Subsection (c)(4) unless the department has a confidence level
1-39 of at least:

1-40 (1) 95 percent that chronic wasting disease is not
1-41 present at greater than five percent prevalence over a five-year
1-42 testing period, if:

1-43 (A) the release site has no connection to a
1-44 facility on which chronic wasting disease has been detected;

1-45 (B) all deer released on the site display visible
1-46 identification allowing for individual identification at a
1-47 distance; and

1-48 (C) the site has complied with all applicable
1-49 commission rules and department registration and permitting
1-50 requirements and has not had any violations relating to a permit
1-51 described by Section [12.601](#); or

1-52 (2) 99 percent that chronic wasting disease is not
1-53 present at greater than one percent prevalence over a five-year
1-54 testing period, if the release site:

1-55 (A) has not more than a trace connection to a
1-56 facility on which chronic wasting disease has been detected; and

1-57 (B) otherwise does not satisfy the requirements
1-58 of Subdivisions (1)(A)-(C).

1-59 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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