

1-1 By: Kacal (Senate Sponsor - Kolthorst) H.B. No. 2271
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2023;
 1-3 May 8, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
 1-4 Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 12, 2023, reported favorably by
 1-5 the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 12, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
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 protection of aquaculture operations.
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-21 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Agriculture Code, is amended by
 1-22 adding Section 2.007 to read as follows:
 1-23 Sec. 2.007. POLICY: AQUACULTURE. (a) In this section,
 1-24 "aquaculture" has the meaning assigned by Section 134.001.
 1-25 (b) The agricultural policy of this state must recognize
 1-26 that aquaculture is a type of agriculture and must be awarded the
 1-27 same rights, privileges, and protections as any other type of
 1-28 agricultural operation.
 1-29 SECTION 2. Section 134.001(1), Agriculture Code, is amended
 1-30 to read as follows:
 1-31 (1) "Cultured species" means aquatic animals or plants
 1-32 raised under conditions where at least a portion of their life cycle
 1-33 is controlled by an aquaculturist.
 1-34 SECTION 3. Section 251.002(1), Agriculture Code, is amended
 1-35 to read as follows:
 1-36 (1) "Agricultural operation" includes the following
 1-37 activities:
 1-38 (A) cultivating the soil;
 1-39 (B) producing crops for human food, animal feed,
 1-40 planting seed, or fiber;
 1-41 (C) floriculture;
 1-42 (D) viticulture;
 1-43 (E) horticulture;
 1-44 (F) silviculture;
 1-45 (G) wildlife management;
 1-46 (H) raising or keeping livestock or poultry;
 1-47 [~~and~~]
 1-48 (I) planting cover crops or leaving land idle for
 1-49 the purpose of participating in any governmental program or normal
 1-50 crop or livestock rotation procedure; and
 1-51 (J) aquaculture.
 1-52 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-53 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-54 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-55 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-56 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

1-57 * * * * *