

SUBJECT: Contact information in agreement to allow shooting across a property line

COMMITTEE: Culture, Recreation and Tourism — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 6 ayes — Guillen, Frullo, Larson, Márquez, Murr, Smith

0 nays

1 absent — Dukes

WITNESSES: For — None

Against — None

On — Kevin Davis, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

BACKGROUND: Under Parks and Wildlife Code, sec. 62.0121, a person commits an offense if, while hunting or shooting recreationally, the person knowingly discharges a firearm and the projectile from the firearm travels across a property line.

It is a defense to prosecution if the person hunting or shooting has a written agreement with any person who owns property on either side of each property line crossed by the projectile that allows the person to discharge a firearm on, over, or across the property or property line.

The written agreement must:

- contain the name of the person allowed to hunt or engage in recreational shooting;
- identify the property on either side of the property line crossed by the projectile; and
- be signed by any person who owns the property on either side of the line crossed by the projectile.

DIGEST: HB 3390 would require the written agreement allowing a person to shoot

on, over, or across another person's property or property line to include, along with the information already required, the telephone number and mailing address of the hunter or recreational shooter.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015.

**SUPPORTERS
SAY:**

By requiring a telephone number and address in the written agreement to shoot across a property line, HB 3390 would help law enforcement officials contact people who had permission to hunt or recreationally shoot on a landowner's property if there were action that required an investigation. The bill would facilitate dialogue between neighbors by encouraging them to have written agreements with detailed information that made it easier to get in touch with one another.

**OPPONENTS
SAY:**

No apparent opposition.