CHAPTER 142

H.B. No. 597

AN ACT
relating to boater education and examinations on preventing the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 31.108, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A boater education course or equivalency examination under this section must include information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish, including department-approved methods for cleaning:

(1) a boat;
(2) a boat’s motor;
(3) fishing and other equipment; and
(4) a boat trailer.

SECTION 2. The Parks and Wildlife Department boater education courses and equivalency examinations must include information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish as required by Section 31.108(a-1), Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, on or before January 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 3, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 9, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Effective May 24, 2013.

CHAPTER 143

H.B. No. 1164

AN ACT
relating to the territory that may be included in a single county election precinct.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 42.005, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42.005. RELATIONSHIP TO [WARD,
DISTRICTS[,] AND JUSTICE AND
COMMISSIONERS PRECINCTS.

SECTION 2. Section 42.005(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A county election precinct, including a consolidated precinct, may not contain territory from more than one of each of the following types of territorial units:

(1) a commissioners precinct;
(2) a justice precinct;
(3) a congressional district;
(4) a state representative district;
(5) a state senatorial district; or
(6) a ward in a city with a population of 10,000 or more; or
[27] a State Board of Education district.

SECTION 3. Section 42.010(c), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) After each redistricting of a territorial unit described by Section 42.005(a)(3), (4), (5), or (6) [(7)], the commissioners court may submit recommendations to the secretary of state on changes to the territorial units to allow the county to eliminate county election precincts with no population or a substantially small population.

SECTION 4. Sections 42.005(c) and (d) and 42.010(a), Election Code, are repealed.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 18, 2013: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 9, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved May 24, 2013.

Effective May 24, 2013.

CHAPTER 144

H.B. No. 1186

AN ACT

relating to the Texas Racing Commission’s ability to share investigatory information with other state regulatory agencies.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 2.15, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon’s Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2.15. RECORDS. (a) All records of the commission that are not made confidential by other law are open to inspection by the public during regular office hours. All applications for a license under this Act shall be maintained by the commission and shall be available for public inspection during regular office hours.

(b) The contents of the investigatory files of the commission—however— are not public records and are confidential except in a criminal proceeding, in a hearing conducted by the commission, on court order, or with the consent of the party being investigated.

(c) The commission may share with another regulatory agency of this state any investigatory file information that creates a reasonable suspicion of a person’s violation of a law or rule under that agency’s jurisdiction. The agency may use the information as if it was obtained through that agency’s investigatory process.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 3, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 9, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved May 24, 2013.

Effective May 24, 2013.