

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R12265 BDH-F

H.B. 2  
By: Swinford (Ogden)  
Natural Resources  
5/5/1999  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST**

Agriculture is a major component in Texas' economy, creating numerous job opportunities for Texans. Texas currently lacks a consistent statewide policy addressing the agriculture industry, from production and processing, and ensuring economic survival of agriculture industries and businesses. H.B. 2 would establish conditions regarding agriculture and a state agricultural policy.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 2 establishes conditions regarding agriculture and state agricultural policy.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Provides that this Act shall be known as the Agriculture and Rural Development Act of 1999.

SECTION 2. Amends Title 1, Agriculture Code, by adding Chapter 2, as follows:

#### **CHAPTER 2. STATE AGRICULTURAL POLICY**

Sec. 2.001. DEFINITIONS. Defines "agriculture."

Sec. 2.002. FINDINGS. Sets forth the legislative findings.

Sec. 2.003. POLICY. Sets forth the considerations and areas to be addressed by the agricultural policy of this state.

SECTION 3. Requires the legislature to conduct a comprehensive study of the condition of agriculture, the state's current programs in support of agriculture, and the role of the state in preserving the agricultural industry. Requires the study to be conducted in a manner determined by certain government officials, agencies, and institutions of higher education.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.  
Effective date: upon passage.