

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 3191
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Intergovernmental Relations
5/13/1999
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

Currently, counties may regulate the use of county parks. However, the statutes that authorize the counties contain no provisions for enforcement of these rules. H.B. 3191 would create a Class C misdemeanor offense for a violation of a county park rule.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 3191 amends regulations regarding the imposition of a criminal penalty and the use of fines for a violation of a rule concerning the use of county parks.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is granted to the board of park commissioners in SECTION 1 (Section 320.0455(b), Local Government Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 320C, Local Government Code, by adding Section 320.0455, as follows:

Sec. 320.0455. RULES IN A POPULOUS COUNTY; PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS. Applies this section to a county with a population of 2.8 million or more. Authorizes the board of park commissioners (board) to adopt reasonable rules concerning the use of any park administered by the board. Provides that a person commits a Class C misdemeanor offense if a person violates a rule approved by the commissioners court under Subsection (b). Requires the fines collected to be deposited in the county's general fund.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.