

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 572  
By: Stephenson  
Agriculture & Livestock  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties assert that some Texans improperly dispose of unwanted pesticides or store such pesticides in unsafe conditions due to the lack of organized collection activities that allow for the responsible disposal of pesticide waste. C.S.H.B. 572 seeks to address this issue by providing for statewide pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 572 amends the Agriculture Code to require the Department of Agriculture (TDA), in coordination with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, to organize pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities statewide. The bill authorizes the TDA, TCEQ, and the extension service to contract for the services of contractors to implement the collection activities and facilitate the collection of canceled, unregistered, or otherwise unwanted pesticide products and pesticide containers. The bill establishes the pesticide disposal fund as a fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund to be administered by the TDA and composed of money deposited to the credit of the fund from pesticide registration fees and interest earned on the investment of money in the fund. The bill requires the TDA to annually deposit to the credit of the fund from pesticide registration fees an amount not to exceed \$400,000 to cover the cost of administering the collection activities and restricts appropriation of money in the fund to the purposes of the collection activities.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**

While C.S.H.B. 572 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

INTRODUCED

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 76, Agriculture Code, is amended.

SECTION 2. Section 76.044, Agriculture Code, is amended.

SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 76, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 76.132 to read as follows:

Sec. 76.132. DISPOSAL OF PESTICIDE.  
The department, in coordination with

the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, shall organize pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities statewide. The department

and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service may contract for the services of contractors that are licensed in the disposal of hazardous waste under Section 401.202, Health and Safety Code, or other contractors to implement the pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities and facilitate the collection of canceled, unregistered, or otherwise unwanted pesticide products and pesticide containers.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

SECTION 1. Same as introduced version.

SECTION 2. Same as introduced version.

SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 76, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 76.132 to read as follows:

Sec. 76.132. DISPOSAL OF PESTICIDE.  
The department, in coordination with the

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, shall organize pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities statewide. The department, the

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service may contract for the services of contractors that are licensed in the disposal of hazardous waste under Section 401.202, Health and Safety Code, or other contractors to implement the pesticide waste and pesticide container collection activities and facilitate the collection of canceled, unregistered, or otherwise unwanted pesticide products and pesticide containers.

SECTION 4. Same as introduced version.