

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R3602 YDB-D

S.B. 261  
By: Bernsen  
Business & Commerce  
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As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, human salmonellosis associated with exotic pets is gaining recognition as a reemerging disease. As proposed, S.B. 261 requires the owner of the pet store that sells reptiles to post a sign warning of reptile-associated salmonellosis, provide a written warning of reptile-associated salmonellosis to the purchaser of a reptile, and require the Texas Board of Health to adopt rules to govern the information required by the sign and the written notice.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Board of Health in SECTION 1 (Section 81.352, Health and Safety Code) of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 81, Health and Safety Code, by adding Subchapter I, as follows:

#### **SUBCHAPTER I. ANIMAL-BORNE DISEASES**

Sec. 81.351. DEFINITION. Defines "pet store."

Sec. 81.352. WARNING SIGN REQUIRED; BOARD RULES. Requires the owner or operator of a pet store that sells reptiles to post a sign warning of reptile-associated salmonellosis in accordance with the Texas Board of Health (board) rules; and ensure that a written warning related to reptile-associated salmonellosis is provided to each purchaser of a reptile. Requires the board to adopt rules to govern the form and content of the required sign and the manner and place of posting of the sign; and the form and content of the required written warning.

Sec. 81.353. CRIMINAL PENALTY. Provides that a person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates this subchapter or a rule adopted under this subchapter. Provides that an offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.