

From: Dale Shively <[Dale.Shively@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Dale.Shively@tpwd.texas.gov)>  
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Subject: TX House Bill 7

Another House Bill 7 has left the TX House and moved to the Senate. This is the bill that swept up all interest bearing accounts including the reef program a year or so ago.

This time, the House put in 2 more exemptions. In HB-7, Section 7, 403.0956 (page 4) there are 2 new exemptions added (Alamo; Coastal Preservation).

We would like to see if the TPWD Artificial Reef Program could be exempt since the donation money and interest is all we receive to work with. The interest is what we use in our operating funds and is usually over \$200,000/year; this is what the Legislature swept and what we will potentially lose each year.

I was told that Sen. Larry Taylor (Houston) would be a good contact on the Senate side. Can you put in a word with one of your State Senator contacts to see what can be done to get the reef program added to this exempt list? The exemptions seem to have some federal fund connection, which the reef program does not but if we do not protect the reef fund we will be looking at a serious cutback in reefing in the future as petroleum platform donations slowly disappear.

Regards,

J. Dale Shively,  
Leader  
Artificial Reef Program  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
Coastal  
Fisheries Division  
4200 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744