

By: Martinez Fischer

H.B. No. 1557

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the governor and the legislature with respect to certain declared states of disaster.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 418.014, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c) A state of disaster may not continue for more than 30 days unless renewed by the governor, subject to Subsection (c-1). The legislature by law may terminate a state of disaster at any time. On termination by the legislature, the governor shall issue an executive order ending the state of disaster.

(c-1) If the governor finds that a state of disaster requires renewal and the legislature is not convened in regular or special session, the governor by proclamation shall convene the legislature in special session to respond to the state of disaster.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a state of disaster declared or renewed on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.