

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1772
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2021; March 26, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture & Rural
 1-4 Affairs; April 26, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 26, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16			X	

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the establishment of the Texas Pollinator-Smart program
 1-20 for solar energy sites.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter K, Chapter 88,
 1-23 Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-24 SUBCHAPTER K. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION [~~SERVICE~~]

1-25 SECTION 2. Section 88.821, Education Code, is amended to
 1-26 read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 88.821. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "AgriLife
 1-28 Extension" or "extension service" means [~~the~~] Texas A&M AgriLife
 1-29 Extension [~~Service~~].

1-30 SECTION 3. Subchapter K, Chapter 88, Education Code, is
 1-31 amended by adding Section 88.824 to read as follows:

1-32 Sec. 88.824. TEXAS POLLINATOR-SMART PROGRAM. (a) AgriLife
 1-33 Extension shall establish and implement the Texas Pollinator-Smart
 1-34 program to encourage the voluntary establishment and conservation
 1-35 of habitats for bees, birds, and other pollinators in and near solar
 1-36 energy sites.

1-37 (b) AgriLife Extension shall develop educational materials
 1-38 for the program that include information regarding:

1-39 (1) benefits to solar energy producers, neighboring
 1-40 landowners, agricultural producers, and the environment of
 1-41 providing pollinator habitats at solar energy sites;

1-42 (2) resources and practices for establishing and
 1-43 maintaining pollinator habitats;

1-44 (3) native plant species compatible with solar energy
 1-45 sites that provide habitat for pollinators;

1-46 (4) methods to prevent, identify, and eradicate
 1-47 invasive species without causing harm to pollinators;

1-48 (5) any available grants or other financial incentives
 1-49 for establishing or maintaining pollinator habitats;

1-50 (6) examples of pollinator habitats established at
 1-51 solar energy sites in this state or other locations; and

1-52 (7) the Texas Pollinator-Smart scorecard and
 1-53 certificate under Subsection (c).

1-54 (c) AgriLife Extension shall:

1-55 (1) develop a Texas Pollinator-Smart scorecard with
 1-56 criteria to evaluate and score pollinator habitats at solar energy
 1-57 sites in this state; and

1-58 (2) award the Texas Pollinator-Smart certificate to
 1-59 solar energy sites with pollinator habitats that meet or achieve a
 1-60 score determined by AgriLife Extension.

1-61 (d) AgriLife Extension may provide advice and technical

2-1 assistance to participants and potential participants in the Texas
2-2 Pollinator-Smart program, including reports evaluating the
2-3 suitability of solar energy sites.

2-4 (e) Participation in the Texas Pollinator-Smart program by
2-5 a solar energy site is voluntary.

2-6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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