

By: Bhojani

H.B. No. 4451

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a report by the Texas Workforce Commission regarding apprenticeship opportunities in this state for emerging and high-demand industries.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 302, Labor Code, is amended by adding Section 302.0191 to read as follows:

Sec. 302.0191. REPORT ON AVAILABLE APPRENTICESHIPS. (a)

In this section:

(1) "Apprenticeship program" includes:

(A) an industry-recognized training program, as defined by Section 302.252; and

(B) an apprenticeship training program, as defined by Section 133.001, Education Code.

(2) "Emerging and high-demand industry" means an industry or occupation described by the report required under Section 302.019.

(b) Not later than September 1 of each year, the commission shall, in consultation with each local workforce development board, prepare and submit to the legislature a report on available apprenticeship programs in this state and make recommendations to expand the availability of apprenticeship programs in emerging and high-demand industries. The report must:

(1) include data on:

1           (A) the total number of active apprenticeship  
2 programs, categorized by the industries included in the North  
3 American Industry Classification System;

4           (B) the total number of active apprentices,  
5 categorized by the industries included in the North American  
6 Industry Classification System; and

7           (C) the total occupational demand for each  
8 industry, categorized by each occupation in the industry for which  
9 an apprenticeship program may be established; and

10           (2) make recommendations to expand available  
11 apprenticeship programs for emerging and high-demand industries  
12 with higher employment demand relative to the total number of  
13 active apprentices and apprenticeship programs.

14           (c) The commission may collaborate and consult with the  
15 council or the Apprenticeship and Training Advisory Committee, as  
16 designated by the council, to develop recommendations for the  
17 report under Subsection (b).

18           (d) The commission shall provide a copy of the report to the  
19 council or the Apprenticeship and Training Advisory Committee, as  
20 designated by the council, at the same time as the report required  
21 under Section 133.006(b), Education Code.

22           SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2024, the commission  
23 shall prepare and submit the initial report required by Section  
24 302.0191, Labor Code, as added by this Act.

25           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.