

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 4892

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to physical security and cybersecurity practices for
3 certain utilities that provide electricity service and an
4 independent organization certified to manage a power region.

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

6 SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter B, Chapter 31,
7 Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER B. PHYSICAL SECURITY AND CYBERSECURITY

9 SECTION 2. The heading to Section 31.052, Utilities Code,
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 Sec. 31.052. PHYSICAL SECURITY AND CYBERSECURITY
12 COORDINATION PROGRAM FOR UTILITIES.

13 SECTION 3. Section 31.052(a), Utilities Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (a) The commission shall establish a program to monitor and
16 support physical security and cybersecurity efforts among
17 utilities in this state. The program shall:

18 (1) provide guidance, technical assistance, and
19 training on best practices in physical security and cybersecurity
20 and facilitate the sharing of cybersecurity information between
21 utilities; ~~and~~

22 (2) provide guidance, technical assistance, and
23 training on best practices for physical security and cybersecurity
24 controls for supply chain risk management of cybersecurity systems

1 used by utilities, which may include, as applicable, best practices
2 related to:

3 (A) software integrity and authenticity;

4 (B) vendor risk management and procurement
5 controls, including notification by vendors of incidents related to
6 the vendor's products and services; and

7 (C) vendor remote access;

8 (3) develop models, assessments, and auditing
9 procedures for a utility to self-assess physical security and
10 cybersecurity; and

11 (4) provide opportunities for utilities to share with
12 each other best practices for and information on physical security
13 and cybersecurity.

14 SECTION 4. Section 39.151(o), Utilities Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (o) An independent organization certified by the commission
17 under this section shall:

18 (1) conduct internal physical security and
19 cybersecurity risk assessment, vulnerability testing, and employee
20 training to the extent the independent organization is not
21 otherwise required to do so under applicable state and federal
22 physical security, cybersecurity, and information security laws;
23 and

24 (2) submit a report annually to the commission on the
25 independent organization's compliance with applicable physical
26 security, cybersecurity, and information security laws.

27 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.