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H.B. No. 2618

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2618:

By: Thompson

C.S.H.B. No. 2618

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the development of a severe weather adaptation plan by
certain entities.

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

SECTION 1. Title 7, Government Code, is amended by adding
Chapter 795 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 795. SEVERE WEATHER ADAPTATION PLAN

Sec. 795.001. PARTICIPATING ENTITIES. Not later than
September 1 of each even-numbered year, each of the following
entities shall publish a severe weather adaptation plan to assess
the entity's role with respect to severe weather events:

(1) the Department of Agriculture;

(2) the Department of Public Safety of the State of
Texas;

(3) the General Land Office;

(4) the Health and Human Services Commission;

(5) the office of the comptroller;

(6) the Parks and Wildlife Department;

(7) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;

(8) the Texas A&M Forest Service;

(9) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

(10) the Texas Department of Housing and Community
Affairs;

(11) the Texas Department of Insurance;

1 (12) the Texas Department of Transportation; and

2 (13) the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

3 Sec. 795.002. PLAN. For purposes of this chapter, a severe
4 weather adaptation plan is a strategy to identify, minimize, and
5 adequately prepare for the effects of changes in the incidence and
6 prevalence of severe weather on the social, economic, and
7 ecological systems of this state and to manage the risks associated
8 with severe weather. A plan under this section must be based on
9 current research-based science that identifies the likely effects
10 on this state from severe weather events.

11 Sec. 795.003. CONTENTS OF PLAN. (a) An entity's severe
12 weather adaptation plan must include:

13 (1) a severe weather vulnerability assessment;

14 (2) a review of existing programs in the context of
15 severe weather events;

16 (3) an analysis of the effects the entity's efforts to
17 adapt to changes in the incidence and prevalence of severe weather
18 events would have on the entity's budget during the next 2, 5, and
19 10 years;

20 (4) potential sources of funding to support the
21 entity's efforts to adapt to changes in the incidence and
22 prevalence of severe weather events; and

23 (5) a statewide strategy to monitor the continuing
24 effects of severe weather events.

25 (b) In developing a severe weather adaptation plan, each
26 entity subject to this chapter may consult with:

27 (1) the Houston Advanced Research Center; and

1 (2) the Office of the Texas State Climatologist in the
2 Department of Atmospheric Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences,
3 Texas A&M University.

4 (c) An entity subject to this chapter that is required to
5 develop a continuity of operations plan under Section 412.054,
6 Labor Code, shall include in the plan the severe weather
7 vulnerability assessment described by Subsection (a)(1).

8 Sec. 795.004. POSTING OF PLAN. (a) Not later than
9 September 1 of each even-numbered year, each entity subject to this
10 chapter shall post the entity's severe weather adaptation plan on a
11 publicly accessible Internet website and electronically submit a
12 copy of the plan to:

13 (1) the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of
14 the house of representatives;

15 (2) the presiding officer of each standing committee
16 or subcommittee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over
17 environmental matters; and

18 (3) the executive director of the Texas Commission on
19 Environmental Quality.

20 (b) An entity shall redact from the severe weather
21 adaptation plan information the release of which might compromise
22 the security of the entity's operations before posting the plan on a
23 publicly accessible Internet website.

24 Sec. 795.005. AUDIT OF PLAN. A severe weather adaptation
25 plan is subject to audit by the state auditor in accordance with
26 Chapter 321.

27 SECTION 2. Section 795.003(c), Government Code, as added by

1 this Act, applies only to a continuity of operations plan developed
2 or adopted under Section [412.054](#), Labor Code, on or after the
3 effective date of this Act.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.