

Amend CSHB 1779 by adding the following appropriately numbered section:

SECTION __. Subchapter D, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.1519 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.1519. ERCOT ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE. (a) The ERCOT accountability task force consists of:

(1) the comptroller, who serves as the presiding officer of the task force; and

(2) representatives of:

(A) the comptroller's office;

(B) the office of the attorney general;

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

(D) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;

(E) the Office of Public Utility Counsel; and

(F) the office of the state auditor.

(b) The task force shall oversee the implementation of best management practices for the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for ERCOT. The task force may contract with independent fraud investigators or other experts as the task force determines is appropriate. ERCOT shall pay the costs of task force contractors under this subsection.

(c) The task force shall present a report on the activities and findings of the task force to the governor, lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and to the presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with jurisdiction over electric services not later than January 1, 2007. This section expires September 1, 2007.