

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 518

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the evaluation of colonias in this state

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 487, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 487.354 to read as follows:

Sec. 487.354. EVALUATION OF COLONIAS. (a) In this section, "colonia" means any identifiable unincorporated community, or an identifiable community annexed by a municipality per Section 43.907(b) Local Government Code, that:

(1) is determined by existing rules of the state agency being applied to for a grant or loan or other assistance as a "colonia" or as an "economically depressed area"

(2) is determined by an agency being applied to for a grant or loan to be a colonia on the basis of objective criteria, including lack of potable water supply, lack of adequate sewage systems, and lack of decent, safe, and sanitary housing.

(b) As part of the application process for the Community Development Block Grant, Colonia Construction Fund or other grants or loans an agency shall require each applicant to submit to the agency a properly completed form as specified in SECTION 2. No application shall be considered for funding by the office without the completed form. The agency shall not be required to verify the accuracy of the information on the form provided by the applicant. The form shall include the following criteria:

1 If YES, what type of clinic/health center is available?

2 _____

3 Are emergency medical services available in your
4 area? YES NO

5 TRANSPORTATION:

6 Are the streets and roads passable in all weather
7 conditions? YES NO

8 Is the area accessible by emergency vehicles? YES NO

9 Are streets and roads paved? YES NO

10 If YES, what percentage of street and roads are paved?

11 a) 0-25% b) 26-50% c) 51-75% d) 76-100%

12 HOUSING:

13 What percentage of homes in the colonia appear to be in need
14 of housing rehabilitation or reconstruction?

15 a) 0-25% b) 26-50% c) 51-75% d) 76-100%

16 COMMUNICATIONS:

17 Are telephone services (cellular or land based)
18 available? YES NO

19 PLATTING:

20 Has the colonia been platted? YES NO

21 ENGINEERING:

22 What is the approximate cost per connection or housing unit
23 for the project?

24 GENERAL:

25 Please explain the selection of this particular colonia(s).
26 Include all aspects that identify the rationale for this colonia
27 being selected.

1	SECTION 3. A score for the evaluation shall be computed as					
2	follows:					Max
3	WATER	a-2.5	b-5	c-7.5	d-10	10
4	WASTEWATER	a-2.5	b-5	c-7.5	d-10	10
5	TRASH	a-2.5	b-5	c-7.5	d-10	10
6	ACCESS TO					
7	HEALTHCARE	a. Yes 3 No 0	b. Yes 3 No 0	c. Yes 4 No 0		10
8	TRANSPORTATION A&B	a. Yes 2 No 0	b. Yes 2 No 0			4
9	TRANSPORTATION C	a-1.5	b-3	c-4.5	d-6	6
10	HOUSING	a-2.5	b-5	c-7.5	d-10	10
11	COMMUNICATIONS	a. Yes 10		No 0		10
12	PLATTING	a. Yes 10		No 0		10
13		TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE				80
14	SECTION 4. This act takes effect September 1, 2005.					