By: Guillen H.B. No. 518

	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1	AN ACT
2	relating to the evaluation of colonias in this state
3	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
4	SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 487, Government Code, is
5	amended by adding Section 487.354 to read as follows:
6	Sec. 487.354. EVALUATION OF COLONIAS. (a) In this section,
7	"colonia" means any identifiable unincorporated community, or an
8	identifiable community annexed by a municipality per Section
9	43.907(b) Local Government Code, that:
10	(1) is determined by existing rules of the state

- 10 <u>is determined by existing rules of the state</u>

 11 <u>agency being applied to for a grant or loan or other assistance as a</u>

 12 <u>"colonia" or as an "economically depressed area"</u>
- 13 (2) <u>is determined by an agency being applied to for a</u>
 14 grant or loan to be a colonia on the basis of objective criteria,
 15 <u>including lack of potable water supply, lack of adequate sewage</u>
 16 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.
- 24 The form shall include the following criteria:

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1
                (1)
                      potable water and sewage systems;
 2
                (2)
                     roads and public transportation;
 3
                (3)
                     housing;
                     engineering and design considerations; and
 4
                 (4)
 5
                (5) other factors, as determined by the agency.
           SECTION 2. The Form shall include the following:
 6
 7
           WATER:
           Is potable water available in the colonia?
 8
                                                                YES
                                                                      NO
           If YES, what percentage of homes have potable water service?
 9
                       b) 26-50%
10
           a) 0-25\%
                                     c)
                                         51-75%
                                                d)
                                                       76-100%
           WASTEWATER:
11
           Is wastewater disposal available in the colonia?
12
                                                               YES
                                                                      NO
           If YES, what percentage of homes have an adequate legal sewer
13
14
     disposal system?
                           26-50%
15
           a) 0-25%
                       b)
                                     c)
                                         51-75%
                                                  d)
                                                       76-100%
           TRASH:
16
           Is trash collection available in the colonia?
                                                               YES
                                                                      NO
17
           If YES, what percentage of homes have a legal solid waste
18
     disposal service?
19
           a) 0-25%
                       b)
                           26-50%
                                   c) 51-75%
                                                d)
                                                      76-100%
20
           ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE
21
           Is there a hospital in your county?
                                                                YES
22
                                                                      NO
           If YES, the name of the hospital is ____
23
           The nearest hospital is ____ miles away.
24
              there an emergency clinic/rural clinic/federally
25
     qualified health center in your county?
26
27
           If YES, the nearest clinic/health center is ____ miles away.
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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

being selected.

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1	SECTION 3. A score for the evaluation shall be compute	d 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.	