

By: Swinford

H.B. No. 2717

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the governor's study of emerging technology and economic development.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The office of the governor shall conduct a study to:

(1) review how states and countries with leading economies wholly or partly based on information, ideas, and technology have structured economic development programs to match the needs of businesses in this century;

(2) identify emerging technologies in this state's economy and the growth and development needs of the emerging technologies, including need related to existing and potential capital resources;

(3) identify laws and recommend changes in laws which have inadvertently or unnecessarily prevented industries, businesses, trades or professions from keeping pace with new developing or using new capabilities, or from applying existing capabilities, including capabilities related to specialized technological training.

(4) summarize and outline all existing tools and programs that are available under law to this state and political subdivisions of this state for encouraging economic development and emerging technology;

1 (5) outline the economic development functions and
2 responsibilities of this state, members of the finance community,
3 university and industry researchers, and others who have an
4 interest in encouraging economic growth and opportunity in this
5 state; and

6 (6) develop and recommend pilot programs to implement
7 and test study recommendations.

8 (b) The governor shall report the results of the study
9 conducted under Subsection (a), together with recommendations for
10 statutory changes, to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the
11 house of representatives, and the members of the 80th Legislature
12 not later than December 1, 2006.

13 SECTION 2. This Act expires September 1, 2007.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.