A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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            AN ACT
relating to a preference in state purchasing for products from
disaster areas.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 2155, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2155.454 to read as follows:
Sec. 2155.454. PREFERENCE TO GOODS FROM DISASTER AREA. (a) In this section, "disaster area" means an area of this state that has been declared a disaster area by:
(1) the governor under Chapter 418; or
(2) the president of the United States under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Section 5121 et seq.).
(b) The comptroller and each state agency procuring goods shall give preference to goods produced in a disaster area if:
(1) the cost of the goods does not exceed the cost of other similar goods that are not produced in a disaster area; and
(2) the quality of the goods equals or exceeds the quality of other similar goods that are not produced in a disaster area.
(c) The preference required by this section applies beginning on the date the area is first declared to be a disaster area and ending on the first anniversary of that date, regardless of the date the declaration terminates or expires.
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8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

