

By: Burnam

H.B. No. 1553

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the development of a climate adaptation plan by certain entities.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 5, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 393 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 393. CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN

Sec. 393.001. PARTICIPATING ENTITIES. Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, each of the following entities shall publish a climate adaptation plan that will assess the entity's role with respect to climate change:

(1) the Department of Agriculture;

(2) the independent organization certified under Section 39.151, Utilities Code;

(3) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

(4) the General Land Office;

(5) the Health and Human Services Commission;

(6) the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs;

(7) the Texas Department of Insurance;

(8) the Parks and Wildlife Department;

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

(10) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;

- (11) the office of the comptroller;
- (12) the Texas Department of Transportation;
- (13) the Texas Forest Service; and
- (14) the Texas Water Development Board.

Sec. 393.002. PLAN. (a) Each climate adaptation plan must include:

- (1) a climate change vulnerability assessment;
- (2) a review of existing programs in the context of anticipated changing climate conditions;
- (3) specific steps necessary for the entity to fulfill its mission during the anticipated climate change;
- (4) an analysis of the effects implementing the steps identified under Subdivision (3) would have on the entity's budget during the next 2, 5, and 10 years;
- (5) potential sources of funding to support the entity's efforts to adapt to climate change; and
- (6) a statewide strategy to monitor the continuing effects of climate change.

(b) In developing a climate adaptation plan, each entity subject to this section shall:

- (1) consider the most current assessment report created by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and
- (2) consult with at least one institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

(c) Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, each entity subject to this section shall post the entity's climate adaptation plan on a publicly accessible Internet website and

1 electronically submit a copy of the plan to:

2 (1) the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of  
3 the house of representatives;

4 (2) the presiding officer of each standing committee  
5 or subcommittee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over  
6 environmental matters; and

7 (3) the executive director of the Texas Commission on  
8 Environmental Quality.

9 (d) Each climate adaptation plan is subject to audit by the  
10 state auditor in accordance with Chapter 321, Government Code.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.