

By: Strama

H.B. No. 2866

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to encouraging technology-related economic development  
3 projects that pay competitive compensation for associated  
4 workforce.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 313.021, Tax Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (3) to read as follows:

8 (3) "Qualifying job" means a permanent full-time job  
9 that:

10 (A) requires at least 1,600 hours of work a year;

11 (B) is not transferred from one area in this  
12 state to another area in this state;

13 (C) is not created to replace a previous  
14 employee;

15 (D) is covered by a group health benefit plan, as  
16 defined by Section 481.151, Government Code, for which the business  
17 offers to pay at least 80 percent of the premiums or other charges  
18 assessed for employee-only coverage under the plan, regardless of  
19 whether an employee may voluntarily waive the coverage; and

20 (E) pays the lesser of an average annual wage of  
21 \$50,000 or at least 110 percent of the county average weekly wage  
22 for manufacturing jobs in the county where the job is located.

23 SECTION 2. Section 313.021, Tax Code, is amended by  
24 amending Subsection (5) to read as follows:

1           (5) "County average weekly wage for manufacturing  
2 jobs" means the average weekly wage in a county for manufacturing  
3 jobs as computed by the Texas Workforce Commission.

4           SECTION 3. Section 313.024, Tax Code, is amended by  
5 amending Subsection (b) to read as follows:

6           (b) To be eligible for a limitation on appraised value under  
7 this subchapter, the entity must use the property in connection  
8 with:

9           (1) manufacturing;

10           (2) research and development;

11           (3) a clean coal project, as defined by Section 5.001,  
12 Water Code;

13           (4) an advanced clean energy project, as defined by  
14 Section 382.003, Health and Safety Code;

15           (5) renewable energy electric generation;

16           (6) electric power generation using integrated  
17 gasification combined cycle technology; ~~[or]~~

18           (7) nuclear electric power generation;

19           (8) computer operations facilities; or

20           (9) regional, national, or global corporation  
21 headquarter operations.

22           SECTION 4. Section 313.024, Tax Code, is amended by  
23 amending Subsection (e) to read as follows:

24           (5) "Computer operations facilities" means locations  
25 engaged in computational processing and information storage.

26           (6) "Headquarter" means a location that serves as the  
27 regional, national, or global administrative center of the business

1 and at which are located the offices of the management officials  
2 responsible for key business-wide functions, including finance,  
3 legal marketing, and human resource functions.

4 SECTION 5. Section 313.029, Tax Code, is repealed.

5 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.