

By: Carona

S.B. No. 898

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to energy efficiency programs in institutions of higher education and certain governmental entities.

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

SECTION 1. Subsections (c), (d), and (e), Section 388.005, Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Each political subdivision, institution of higher education, or state agency shall establish a goal to reduce the electric consumption by the entity by at least five percent each state fiscal year for 10 [~~six~~] years, beginning September 1, 2011 [~~2007~~].

(d) A political subdivision, institution of higher education, or state agency that does not attain the goals established under Subsection (c) must include in the report required by Subsection (e) justification that the entity has already implemented all available cost-effective measures. An entity that submits a report under this subsection indicating that the entity has reviewed its available options, has determined that no additional measures are cost-effective, and [~~it~~] has already implemented all available cost-effective measures is exempt from the annual reporting requirement of Subsection (e) if a subsequent report would indicate no change in status. An entity may be required to provide notice that it is exempt to the State Energy Conservation Office.

1 (e) A political subdivision, institution of higher  
2 education, or state agency annually shall report to the State  
3 Energy Conservation Office, on forms provided by that office,  
4 regarding the entity's goal, the entity's efforts to meet the goal,  
5 and progress the entity has made under this section. The State  
6 Energy Conservation Office shall provide assistance and  
7 information to the entity to help the entity meet ~~[the]~~ goals  
8 established ~~[set]~~ under this section. The office must develop and  
9 make available a standardized form for reporting purposes.

10 SECTION 2. Section 388.006, Health and Safety Code, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Sec. 388.006. STATE ENERGY CONSERVATION OFFICE EVALUATION.  
13 The State Energy Conservation Office annually shall provide the  
14 commission and the laboratory with an evaluation of the  
15 effectiveness of state and political subdivision energy efficiency  
16 programs, including programs under this chapter. The laboratory  
17 shall calculate, based on the evaluation and the forms submitted to  
18 the office, the amount of energy savings and estimated reduction in  
19 pollution achieved as a result of the implementation of programs.  
20 The laboratory shall share the information with the commission, the  
21 United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Electric  
22 Reliability Council of Texas to help with long-term forecasting and  
23 in estimating pollution reduction.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.