

By: Alvarado, J. Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 2478

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the collection, study, and reporting by the Texas  
3 Workforce Commission of certain information regarding shortages in  
4 high-wage, high-demand occupations.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 302, Labor Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 302.019 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 302.019. OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGE STUDY; REPORT. (a)

9 The commission shall gather and study information relating to  
10 existing and projected shortages in high-wage, high-demand  
11 occupations in this state. The study conducted by the commission  
12 under this section must include information on existing and  
13 projected shortages in high-wage, high-demand occupations in  
14 industrial job sectors, including:

15 (1) construction;

16 (2) manufacturing;

17 (3) agriculture;

18 (4) forestry;

19 (5) health care and social services;

20 (6) education;

21 (7) transportation and warehousing;

22 (8) mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction;

23 (9) utilities;

24 (10) wholesale trade;

1           (11) retail trade;

2           (12) finance and insurance;

3           (13) professional, scientific, and technical  
4 services; and

5           (14) hospitality and food services.

6           (b) Not later than January 1 of each year, the commission  
7 shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker  
8 of the house of representatives, and the presiding officer of each  
9 standing committee or subcommittee of the legislature with primary  
10 jurisdiction over workforce development matters a detailed report  
11 summarizing the results of the commission's study under this  
12 section for the most recent state fiscal year and any suggestions  
13 and recommendations for legislative action the commission  
14 considers appropriate resulting from that study.

15           SECTION 2. The Texas Workforce Commission shall submit the  
16 initial report to the governor and the legislature as required by  
17 Section 302.019, Labor Code, as added by this Act, not later than  
18 January 1, 2015.

19           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.