

By: Guerra, Munoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 3714

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Office of Small Business Assistance  
Advisory Task Force.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 481, Government Code, is  
amended by adding Section 481.00681 to read as follows:

Sec. 481.00681. OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE  
ADVISORY TASK FORCE. (a) In this section:

(1) "Small business" means a business that employs at  
least 25 but not more than 250 individuals.

(2) "Task force" means the Office of Small Business  
Assistance Advisory Task Force.

(b) The Office of Small Business Assistance shall establish  
the task force.

(c) The task force is composed of seven members appointed as  
follows:

(1) two members appointed by the governor;

(2) three members appointed by the speaker of the  
house of representatives; and

(3) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor.

(d) A task force member serves a two-year term. A task force  
member may be reappointed for additional terms.

(e) Task force members serve without compensation but are  
entitled to reimbursement for reasonable and necessary expenses

1 incurred in the discharge of their duties.

2 (f) The task force shall meet as often as necessary but  
3 shall meet at least once a year.

4 (g) The task force shall:

5 (1) advise and assist the Office of Small Business  
6 Assistance with its duties under Section 481.0068(b) to the extent  
7 that they relate to small businesses;

8 (2) advise and assist the governor, the lieutenant  
9 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives with  
10 issues that relate to small businesses; and

11 (3) provide information in plain language to the  
12 public on issues related to small businesses, including:

13 (A) environmental permitting and compliance;

14 (B) local regulations;

15 (C) construction permitting;

16 (D) the duties of the comptroller to the extent  
17 that the duties relate to small businesses; and

18 (E) the formation of business entities.

19 (h) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
20 task force shall submit to the legislature a report that:

21 (1) describes issues related to small businesses; and

22 (2) proposes legislation to assist small businesses.

23 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
24 of this Act, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker  
25 of the house of representatives shall appoint the members of the  
26 Office of Small Business Assistance Advisory Task Force as required  
27 by Section 481.00681, Government Code, as added by this Act.

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