

By: Oliveira

H.B. No. 2587

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding employers who do not participate in and injured employees who are not covered under the workers' compensation system.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The workers' compensation research and evaluation group of the division of workers' compensation of the Texas Department of Insurance shall conduct a study to:

(1) identify in which industries employers tend to elect to not participate in the workers' compensation system;

(2) determine the reasons the employers involved in the industries identified in Subdivision (1) of this subsection elect to not participate in the workers' compensation system; and

(3) determine the extent to which injured employees whose employers elect to not participate in the workers' compensation system rely on public benefits to:

(A) receive treatment and rehabilitation for their injuries; and

(B) replace lost income while unable to return to work due to their injuries.

(b) The division may require an employer that elects to not participate in the workers' compensation system to submit information to the division as necessary to complete the study under Subsection (a) of this section.

1 (c) The commissioner of workers' compensation shall submit
2 a report containing the findings of the study required under
3 Subsection (a) of this section to the governor, lieutenant
4 governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and appropriate
5 standing committees of the legislature not later than September 1,
6 2016.

7 SECTION 2. This Act expires December 31, 2016.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.