

By: Thompson of Brazoria

H.B. No. 2763

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study of the current and potential economic impacts of recycling.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

(1) "Commission" means the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

(2) "Recycling" has the meaning assigned by Section [361.421](#), Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 2. STUDY OF ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF RECYCLING. (a) The commission shall conduct a study on the current and potential economic impacts of recycling, including state and local revenue that may be considered lost because recyclable materials are not recycled. The study must:

(1) assess current recycling efforts, including by:

(A) quantifying the amount of materials currently being recycled;

(B) assessing the cost, value, and quality of materials currently being recycled; and

(C) estimating the amount of materials that could be recycled but are not currently being recycled;

(2) identify methods that may be used, by the public sector, the private sector, or both, to increase recycling, including through the development of:

1 (A) new markets for recycled materials; and
2 (B) new businesses that may result from
3 recycling;

4 (3) investigate the current and potential
5 availability of funding for the methods identified under
6 Subdivision (2);

7 (4) assess the current types and number of jobs
8 associated with recycling and potential additional opportunities
9 for job creation that may result from increased recycling; and

10 (5) assess infrastructure needs and development
11 opportunities associated with recycling in rural areas.

12 (b) To the extent practicable, the commission shall use
13 methodologies developed for other recycling studies performed in
14 this state in performing the study under this section.

15 (c) The commission shall prepare a written report on the
16 results of the study and include the report in the 2016 summary
17 report titled "Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review."

18 SECTION 3. EXPIRATION. This Act expires August 31, 2017.

19 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
20 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
21 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
22 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
23 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.