86R6871 SRA-D

By:  Dominguez H.B. No. 1873

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a report by the Texas Division of Emergency Management regarding building trade services following disasters.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter C, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.054 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.054.  REPORT ON BUILDING TRADE SERVICES FOLLOWING DISASTERS. (a) Not later than November 1, 2020, the division shall submit a report to members of the legislature on improving the oversight, accountability, and availability of building trade services following disasters. The report must include:

(1)  strategies to increase the availability of tradespeople, including plumbers and electricians, following a disaster;

(2)  approaches to increase prosecutions of alleged fraud related to building trade services offered following a disaster; and

(3)  methods to encourage performance bond requirements in contracts for building trade services to be performed following a disaster.

(b)  The division shall consult with appropriate state entities, including the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, local governments, trade associations, and law enforcement groups in preparing the report described by Subsection (a).

(c)  This section expires January 1, 2021.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.