

By: Walle

H.B. No. 801

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the establishment of a task force to conduct a
3 comprehensive study on flood control infrastructure for Harris
4 County.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "task force" means the task
7 force on flood control infrastructure established under this
8 section.

9 (b) The task force is established to conduct a comprehensive
10 flood control infrastructure study for Harris County. The study
11 must:

12 (1) assess the existing infrastructure in Harris
13 County with respect to flood control; and

14 (2) identify infrastructure improvements necessary to
15 mitigate flooding in that county.

16 (c) The task force is composed of 11 members as follows:

17 (1) one person appointed by the governor;

18 (2) one person appointed by the lieutenant governor;

19 (3) one person appointed by the speaker of the house of
20 representatives;

21 (4) two representatives of the University of Houston's
22 Hobby School of Public Affairs or Cullen College of Engineering,
23 one of whom is appointed by the author of this Act and one of whom is
24 appointed by the sponsor of this Act;

1 (5) two representatives of Texas Southern University's
2 Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs or Department
3 of Transportation Studies, one of whom is appointed by the author of
4 this Act and one of whom is appointed by the sponsor of this Act;

5 (6) one representative of the mayor of the City of
6 Houston, appointed by the mayor;

7 (7) one representative of the Harris County
8 Commissioners Court, appointed by the commissioners court;

9 (8) one other person appointed by the author of this
10 Act; and

11 (9) one other person appointed by the sponsor of this
12 Act.

13 (d) One member appointed under Subsection (c)(4) of this
14 section serves as the presiding officer of the task force, and one
15 member appointed under Subsection (c)(5) of this section serves as
16 the assistant presiding officer.

17 (e) The Hobby School of Public Affairs and the Cullen
18 College of Engineering of the University of Houston shall provide
19 necessary staff and administrative support to the task force.

20 (f) The Harris County Flood Control District shall serve as
21 an advisor to the task force by reviewing task force work products
22 and providing data and other information necessary to conduct the
23 study.

24 (g) The task force shall prepare a report that includes:

25 (1) a description of the activities of the task force;

26 (2) the findings and recommendations of the task
27 force, including any proposed policy recommendations; and

1 (3) any proposals for legislation or other matters the
2 task force considers appropriate.

3 (h) Not later than December 1, 2020, the task force shall
4 submit the report prepared under this section to:

5 (1) the governor;

6 (2) the lieutenant governor;

7 (3) the speaker of the house of representatives; and

8 (4) the presiding officers of the standing committees
9 of the senate and house of representatives having primary
10 jurisdiction over issues relating to flood control infrastructure.

11 (i) The task force is abolished and this Act expires January
12 1, 2021.

13 SECTION 2. This Act does not make an appropriation. A
14 provision of this Act that imposes a new duty on a governmental
15 entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the
16 legislature has not made a specific appropriation to implement the
17 provision.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.