

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

1 report described by Subsection (a).

2 (c) This section expires January 1, 2021.

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