By:  Morrison, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst) H.B. No. 2696

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 17, 2021; May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Finance; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                    Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Nelson               X

Lucio                X

Bettencourt          X

Buckingham                     X

Campbell             X

Creighton            X

Hancock                        X

Huffman                        X

Kolkhorst            X

Nichols              X

Perry                X

Schwertner                     X

Taylor               X

West                           X

Whitmire                       X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for a loan under the disaster recovery loan program.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 418.062, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 418.062.  ELIGIBILITY FOR LOAN. (a) A political subdivision may apply to the division for a loan under this subchapter if:

(1)  the political subdivision:

(A)  is located wholly or partly in an area declared to be a disaster area by the governor or the president of the United States; and

(B)  before applying to the division for a loan under this subchapter, submits[~~:~~

[~~(i)  has submitted~~] to the division[~~, within 15 days of the date of its adoption by the governing body of the political subdivision,~~] the political subdivision's operating budget for the most recent fiscal year; [~~and~~

[~~(ii)  has submitted an application for a loan from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's community disaster loan program;~~]

(2)  an assessment of damages due to the disaster for which the declaration was made has been conducted in the political subdivision; and

(3)  the division[~~, in consultation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency,~~] determines that the political subdivision's estimated cost to appropriately respond to [~~rebuild the political subdivision's infrastructure damaged in~~] the disaster is greater than 50 percent of the political subdivision's total revenue for the current year as shown in the most recent operating budget of the political subdivision submitted to the division under this section.

(b)  The division may consult with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in making the determination required under Subsection (a)(3).

SECTION 2.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a loan the application for which is filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A loan the application for which is filed before that date is governed by the law in effect on the date on which the application was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

\* \* \* \* \*