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H.B. No. 14

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the creation of the Texas Electricity Supply Chain  
3 Security and Mapping Committee.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 38, Utilities Code, is amended by adding  
6 Subchapter F to read as follows:

7 SUBCHAPTER F. TEXAS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND MAPPING  
8 COMMITTEE

9 Sec. 38.201. TEXAS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND  
10 MAPPING COMMITTEE. (a) In this subchapter:

11 (1) "Electricity supply chain" means:

12 (A) facilities and methods used for producing,  
13 processing, or transporting natural gas for delivery to electric  
14 generation facilities; and

15 (B) critical infrastructure necessary to  
16 maintain electricity service.

17 (2) "Natural gas delivery system" means:

18 (A) facilities and methods used for producing,  
19 processing, or transporting natural gas for delivery to  
20 distribution gas pipeline facilities; and

21 (B) critical infrastructure necessary to  
22 maintain natural gas service.

23 (b) The Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping  
24 Committee is established to:

1           (1) map this state's electricity supply chain and  
2 natural gas delivery system;

3           (2) identify critical infrastructure sources in the  
4 electricity supply chain and natural gas delivery system;

5           (3) establish best practices to prepare facilities  
6 that provide electric and natural gas service to maintain service  
7 in an extreme weather event and recommend oversight and compliance  
8 standards for those facilities; and

9           (4) designate priority service needs to prepare for,  
10 respond to, and recover from an extreme weather event.

11           (c) The committee is composed of:

12                 (1) the executive director of the commission;

13                 (2) the executive director of the Railroad Commission  
14 of Texas;

15                 (3) the president and the chief executive officer of  
16 the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the  
17 ERCOT power region; and

18                 (4) the chief of the Texas Division of Emergency  
19 Management.

20           (d) Each member of the committee may designate a personal  
21 representative from the member's organization to represent the  
22 member on the committee. A member is responsible for the acts and  
23 omissions of the designee related to the designee's representation  
24 on the committee.

25           (e) The executive director of the commission serves as the  
26 chair of the committee. The executive director of the Railroad  
27 Commission of Texas serves as vice chair of the committee.

1       Sec. 38.202. ADMINISTRATION. (a) The committee shall meet  
2 at least once each calendar quarter at a time determined by the  
3 committee and at the call of the chair.

4       (b) A member who is an ex officio member from a state agency  
5 shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses in carrying  
6 out committee responsibilities from money appropriated for that  
7 purpose in the agency's budget. Other members of the committee may  
8 receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses in carrying  
9 out committee responsibilities from money appropriated for that  
10 purpose.

11       (c) The commission, the Railroad Commission of Texas, and  
12 the Texas Division of Emergency Management shall provide staff as  
13 necessary to assist the committee in carrying out the committee's  
14 duties and responsibilities.

15       (d) The independent organization certified under Section  
16 39.151 for the ERCOT power region shall provide staff as necessary  
17 to assist the committee in carrying out the committee's duties and  
18 responsibilities.

19       (e) Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, the  
20 committee is subject to Chapters 2001, 551, and 552, Government  
21 Code.

22       Sec. 38.203. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE. (a) The  
23 committee shall:

24           (1) map the state's electricity supply chain in order  
25 to designate priority electricity service needs during extreme  
26 weather events;

27           (2) identify and designate the sources in the

1 electricity supply chain necessary to operate critical  
2 infrastructure, as defined by Section 421.001, Government Code;

3 (3) develop a communication system between critical  
4 infrastructure sources, the commission, and the independent  
5 organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power  
6 region to ensure that electricity and natural gas supplies are  
7 prioritized to those sources during an extreme weather event; and

8 (4) establish best practices to prepare facilities  
9 that provide electric and natural gas service to maintain service  
10 in an extreme weather event and recommend oversight and compliance  
11 standards for those facilities.

12 (b) The commission shall:

13 (1) create and maintain a database identifying  
14 critical infrastructure sources with priority electricity needs to  
15 be used during an extreme weather event; and

16 (2) update the database at least once each year.

17 (c) The information maintained in the database is  
18 confidential under Section 418.181, Government Code, and not  
19 subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

20 Sec. 38.204. ELECTRIC SUPPLY MAPPING REPORT. (a) Not later  
21 than January 1, 2022, the committee shall submit a report to the  
22 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
23 representatives, and the legislature on the activities and findings  
24 of the committee. The report must:

25 (1) provide an overview of the committee's findings  
26 regarding mapping the electricity supply chain and identifying  
27 sources necessary to operate critical infrastructure;

1           (2) recommend a clear and thorough communication  
2 system for the commission, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the  
3 Texas Division of Emergency Management, and the independent  
4 organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power  
5 region and critical infrastructure sources in this state to ensure  
6 that electricity supply is prioritized to those sources during  
7 extreme weather events; and

8           (3) include a list of the established best practices  
9 and recommended oversight and compliance standards adopted under  
10 Section 38.203(a)(4).

11           (b) The report is public information except for portions  
12 considered confidential under Chapter 552, Government Code, or  
13 other state or federal law.

14           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.