By: Vasut H.B. No. 311

A BILL TO BEENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the declaration and length of a state of disaster or
public health disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Section 418.014(c), Government Code, is amended
to read as follows:

(c) A state of disaster may not continue for more than 30
days unless renewed by the legislature by law [governor]. The
legislature by law may terminate a state of disaster at any time.
On termination by the legislature, the governor shall issue an
executive order ending the state of disaster. The governor may not
declare a state of disaster based on the same or a substantially
similar finding for which a state of disaster was declared under
Subsection (a) by the governor within the preceding 12 months.

SECTION 2. Sections 81.082(d) and (e), Health and Safety
Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d) A declaration of a public health disaster may not
continue for [not] more than 30 days unless renewed by the
legislature by law. [A public health disaster may be renewed one
time by the commissioner for an additional 30 days.]

(e) The governor or the legislature by law may terminate a
declaration of a public health disaster at any time.

SECTION 3. Section 51.408(b), Occupations Code, is amended
to read as follows:
(b) An emergency license issued under this section expires on the date indicated by the executive director, but not later than the 90th day after the date the license is issued. If the governor declares a [an extended] state of disaster that is renewed by the legislature under Section 418.014, Government Code, the executive director may extend the term of an emergency license to an expiration date after the 90th day after the date the license was issued.

SECTION 4. 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.