

By: Thierry

H.B. No. 1923

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1923:

By: Button

C.S.H.B. No. 1923

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study and report by a public institution of higher  
3 education on local and state supply chain disruptions caused by the  
4 COVID-19 pandemic and ERCOT power outages.

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

6 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

7 (1) "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus  
8 disease.

9 (2) "ERCOT power outages" means the sustained power  
10 outages that occurred in February 2021 within the power region of  
11 the Electric Reliability Council of Texas as defined by Section  
12 [31.002](#), Utilities Code.

13 SECTION 2. STUDY. (a) Using available appropriated funds,  
14 a public institution of higher education selected by the  
15 comptroller, in collaboration with the Texas Higher Education  
16 Coordinating Board, shall conduct a study to identify and evaluate  
17 local and state supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19  
18 pandemic and ERCOT power outages.

19 (b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the comptroller shall  
20 select the public institution of higher education described by  
21 Subsection (a) of this section, based on proposals submitted in  
22 response to a request for proposals issued by the comptroller.

23 (c) In conducting the study under this section, the public  
24 institution of higher education selected under Subsection (a) of

1 this section shall:

2 (1) assess the overall cost to this state of local and  
3 state supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and  
4 ERCOT power outages;

5 (2) determine the number of jobs affected by local and  
6 state supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and  
7 ERCOT power outages;

8 (3) determine the industries most affected by local  
9 and state supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic  
10 and ERCOT power outages; and

11 (4) recommend policies and procedures for maintaining  
12 effective supply chains in future health, power, and economic  
13 crises.

14 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2022, the  
15 public institution of higher education selected by the comptroller  
16 under Section 2 of this Act shall prepare and submit to the governor  
17 and the legislature a report containing the results of the study  
18 conducted under Section 2 of this Act and any recommendations for  
19 legislative or other action to aid in this state's recovery from the  
20 COVID-19 pandemic and the ERCOT power outages and prepare for  
21 future health, power, and economic crises.

22 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires September 1, 2023.

23 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
24 1, 2021.