

By: Dominguez

H.B. No. 2066

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to emergency management for cybersecurity events threatening this state.

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

SECTION 1. Section 418.002, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 418.002. PURPOSES. The purposes of this chapter are to:

(1) reduce vulnerability of people and communities of this state to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from natural or man-made catastrophes, riots, ~~or~~ hostile military or paramilitary action, or cybersecurity events;

(2) prepare for prompt and efficient rescue, care, and treatment of persons victimized or threatened by disaster;

(3) provide a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly restoration and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by disasters;

(4) clarify and strengthen the roles of the governor, state agencies, the judicial branch of state government, and local governments in prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters;

(5) authorize and provide for cooperation in disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;

(6) authorize and provide for coordination of

1 activities relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness,
2 response, and recovery by agencies and officers of this state, and
3 similar state-local, interstate, federal-state, and foreign
4 activities in which the state and its political subdivisions may
5 participate;

6 (7) provide an emergency management system embodying
7 all aspects of predisaster preparedness and postdisaster response;

8 (8) assist in mitigation of disasters caused or
9 aggravated by inadequate planning for and regulation of public and
10 private facilities and land use;

11 (9) encourage state agencies, local governments,
12 nongovernmental organizations, private entities, and individuals
13 to adopt the goals of the strategic plan of the Federal Emergency
14 Management Agency for preparing for, responding to, and recovering
15 from a disaster that emphasize cooperation among federal agencies,
16 state agencies, local governments, nongovernmental organizations,
17 private entities, and individuals in each activity or project
18 undertaken to ensure that this state is prepared to effectively
19 respond to and recover from a disaster; and

20 (10) provide the authority and mechanism to respond to
21 an energy emergency.

22 SECTION 2. Section 418.0195(b), Government Code, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 (b) The governor may order the Department of Information
25 Resources to disconnect a computer network from the Internet in the
26 event of a cybersecurity event or other substantial external threat
27 to the computer network.

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