

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 2159

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a study on state land use to facilitate health and  
3 wellness for veterans.

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

5 SECTION 1. STUDY REGARDING STATE LAND USE FOR VETERANS. (a)

6 In collaboration with the General Land Office, the Texas Historical  
7 Commission, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas  
8 Veterans Commission shall conduct a study to identify and assess  
9 the use of state land, including state parks, for the purpose of  
10 facilitating health and wellness for veterans.

11 (b) In conducting the study, the Texas Veterans Commission  
12 shall:

13 (1) identify barriers that limit opportunities to  
14 supplement the delivery to veterans of services for health and  
15 wellness through the use of outdoor recreation on state land; and

16 (2) develop recommendations to better facilitate the  
17 use of state land for promoting wellness and facilitating the  
18 delivery of health care and therapeutic interventions for veterans.

19 SECTION 2. REPORT TO LEGISLATURE. Not later than November  
20 1, 2022, the Texas Veterans Commission shall submit to the  
21 governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of  
22 representatives, and appropriate standing committees of the  
23 legislature with jurisdiction over veterans' issues a report on the  
24 results of the study conducted under Section 1 of this Act and any

1 recommendations of the commission related to the study, including  
2 any statutory changes necessary to authorize the use of state land  
3 for the health and wellness of veterans.

4 SECTION 3. EXPIRATION. This Act expires September 1, 2023.

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