

By: Dominguez

H.B. No. 3518

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual report by the Texas Division of Emergency Management regarding building trade services following disasters.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.059 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.059. REPORT ON BUILDING TRADE SERVICES FOLLOWING DISASTERS. (a) Not later than November 1 of each year, the division shall submit a report to members of the legislature on improving the oversight, accountability, and availability of building trade services following disasters. The report must include:

(1) the number and economic impact of tradespeople in communities affected by a disaster;

(2) strategies for using a workforce that has been trained in a United States Department of Labor Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program or Registered Apprenticeship Program to increase the availability of tradespeople, including plumbers and electricians, following a disaster;

(3) approaches to increase prosecutions of alleged fraud relating to building trade services offered following a disaster, including wage theft and worker misclassification; and

(4) methods to encourage performance bond requirements in contracts for building trade services to be performed following a disaster.

1       (b) The division shall consult with appropriate state  
2 entities, including the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and  
3 Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, local governments,  
4 trade associations, United States Department of Labor Registered  
5 Apprenticeship Programs, and law enforcement groups in preparing  
6 the report described by Subsection (a).

7       (c) The report described by Subsection (a) must include the  
8 methodology of the contents of the report, including the type and  
9 nature of information provided by the entities described by  
10 Subsection (b).

11       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.