By:  Morales Shaw H.B. No. 4577

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals in hydraulic fracturing.

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

SECTION 1.  STUDY. The president of the University of Houston shall designate a department or entity at the university to conduct, in collaboration with the Railroad Commission of Texas and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, a study on the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals in the hydraulic fracturing process, including:

(1)  the extent of the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals in the hydraulic fracturing process in this state;

(2)  whether and to what extent the public may be exposed through the air or water to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process;

(3)  the effects on human health and the environment of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process; and

(4)  the feasibility of chemical alternatives to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process; and

(5)  whether perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals should be restricted from use in the hydraulic fracturing process.

SECTION 2.  REPORT. Not later than December 1, 2024, the department or entity at the University of Houston designated by the president of the university to conduct the study under Section 1 of this Act shall prepare a report with the conclusions of the study and submit the report to the legislature.

SECTION 3.  EXPIRATION. This Act expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 4.  EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.