

By: Goodwin

H.B. No. 3326

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the development of an extreme weather adaptation plan by certain entities.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle G, Title 5, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 428 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 428. EXTREME WEATHER ADAPTATION PLAN

Sec. 428.001. PARTICIPATING ENTITIES. Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, each of the following entities shall publish an extreme weather adaptation plan that will assess the entity's role with respect to drought, flooding, and other extreme weather conditions:

(1) the Department of Agriculture;

(2) the independent organization certified under Section 39.151, Utilities Code;

(3) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

(4) the General Land Office;

(5) the Health and Human Services Commission;

(6) the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs;

(7) the Texas Department of Insurance;

(8) the Parks and Wildlife Department;

(9) the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas;

1 (10) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;

2 (11) the office of the comptroller;

3 (12) the Texas Department of Transportation;

4 (13) the Texas A&M Forest Service; and

5 (14) the Texas Water Development Board.

6 Sec. 428.002. PLAN. (a) For the purposes of this chapter,
7 an extreme weather adaptation plan is a strategy to identify,
8 minimize, and adequately prepare for the effects of drought,
9 flooding, and other extreme weather conditions on the social,
10 economic, and ecological systems of this state and to manage the
11 risks associated with extreme weather conditions. A plan under
12 this section must be based on current research-based environmental
13 science that identifies the likely impacts on this state from
14 increased drought, flooding, and other extreme weather conditions.

15 (b) Each extreme weather adaptation plan must include:

16 (1) an extreme weather vulnerability assessment;

17 (2) a review of existing programs in the context of
18 anticipated increased occurrences of extreme weather conditions;

19 (3) specific steps necessary for the entity to fulfill
20 its mission during extreme weather conditions;

21 (4) an analysis of the effects implementing the steps
22 identified under Subdivision (3) would have on the entity's budget
23 during the next 2, 5, and 10 years;

24 (5) potential sources of funding to support the
25 entity's efforts to adapt to extreme weather conditions; and

26 (6) a statewide strategy to monitor the continuing
27 effects of extreme weather conditions.

1 (c) In developing an extreme weather adaptation plan, each
2 entity subject to this section shall:

3 (1) consider the most current assessment reports
4 created by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

5 (2) consult with the Houston Advanced Research Center;
6 and

7 (3) consult with the Office of the Texas State
8 Climatologist in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, College of
9 Geosciences, Texas A&M University.

10 (d) Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year,
11 each entity subject to this section shall post the entity's extreme
12 weather adaptation plan on a publicly accessible Internet website
13 and electronically submit a copy of the plan to:

14 (1) the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of
15 the house of representatives;

16 (2) the presiding officer of each standing committee
17 or subcommittee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over
18 environmental matters; and

19 (3) the executive director of the Texas Commission on
20 Environmental Quality.

21 (e) Each extreme weather adaptation plan is subject to audit
22 by the state auditor in accordance with Chapter 321, Government
23 Code.

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

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.