

By: Walle, Lujan

H.B. No. 1846

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Electric Truck Advisory Council.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H-2 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H-2. ELECTRIC TRUCK ADVISORY COUNCIL

Sec. 201.681. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Council" means the Electric Truck Advisory Council established by this subchapter.

(2) "Electric truck" includes any electric vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 8,501 pounds or more.

Sec. 201.682. ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION. (a) The Electric Truck Advisory Council is established.

(b) Subject to Subsection (c), the council is composed of:

(1) at least one representative appointed by each of the following agencies and entities:

(A) the governor's office;

(B) the department;

(C) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;

(D) the Electric Reliability Council of Texas;

(E) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

(F) the Texas Department of Licensing and

1 Regulation; and

2 (G) the Texas A&M Transportation Institute;

3 (2) at least two representatives from privately owned
4 utilities providing electric service, appointed by the director;

5 (3) at least one representative from a publicly owned
6 utility providing electric service, appointed by the director;

7 (4) at least one representative from the refueling
8 industry with expertise in serving interstate freight
9 transportation, appointed by the director; and

10 (5) at least three members from the private sector,
11 appointed by the director.

12 (c) The director shall determine the number of
13 representatives that each appointing authority under Subsection
14 (b) may appoint to serve on the council.

15 (d) A council member serves at the pleasure of the
16 appointing authority.

17 Sec. 201.683. TERMS; VACANCY. (a) Council members serve
18 six-year terms.

19 (b) A vacancy on the council shall be filled in the same
20 manner as the original appointment. A council member appointed to
21 fill a vacancy on the council shall serve the remainder of the
22 unexpired term.

23 Sec. 201.684. PRESIDING OFFICER. The representative of the
24 department appointed under Section 201.682(b)(1) shall serve as the
25 presiding officer.

26 Sec. 201.685. MEETINGS. The council shall meet at least
27 once a month or more frequently at the call of the presiding

1 officer.

2 Sec. 201.686. ADMINISTRATIVE ATTACHMENT; FUNDING. (a) The
3 council is administratively attached to the department.

4 (b) The council shall be funded using existing funds of the
5 department.

6 Sec. 201.687. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. The council
7 shall:

8 (1) provide guidance on policies and incentives that
9 encourage the adoption of electric trucks and the proliferation of
10 required charging infrastructure;

11 (2) provide guidance on regulatory issues specific to
12 electric trucks to ensure that electric trucks maintain safety and
13 performance standards;

14 (3) serve as a forum for promoting technological
15 advancements in battery technology, electric drivetrains,
16 autonomous driving features, and other innovations;

17 (4) facilitate discussions and coordination among
18 private entities, governmental entities, and research institutions
19 to develop and test new electric truck technologies, share best
20 practices, and support industry-wide adoption of those
21 technologies and practices; and

22 (5) lead initiatives to educate stakeholders,
23 including fleet operators, logistics companies, utilities, and
24 policymakers, regarding electric trucks.

25 Sec. 201.688. STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED
26 IMPLEMENTATION PLANS. (a) The council shall develop a strategic
27 plan for the statewide implementation of electric truck charging

infrastructure. The plan must:

(1) identify strategic locations for electric truck charging infrastructure and the requirements for their development and construction, including high-capacity power sources, freight routes, and the ability to construct operation hubs;

(2) specify each agency subject to the plan; and

(3) make recommendations for each agency subject to the plan relating to the agency's role and responsibilities under the plan.

(b) The council shall submit the strategic plan to the administrative head of each agency subject to the plan.

(c) Not later than the 90th day after receiving the strategic plan, the administrative head of each agency subject to the plan shall develop and submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the legislature a plan for implementing the recommendations applicable to the agency under the strategic plan. An implementation plan must include a justification for any recommendation the agency declines to implement.

Sec. 201.689. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The council is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). The council shall be reviewed during the period in which the department is reviewed under Section 201.204. Unless continued in existence as provided by Chapter 325, Government Code, the council is abolished and this subchapter expires on the date on which the department is subject to abolishment under that section.

Sec. 201.690. APPLICATION OF OTHER LAW. Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the composition or duration of

1 the council or to the designation of the council's presiding
2 officer.

3 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 31, 2026, the
4 appropriate appointing authorities shall appoint the members of the
5 Electric Truck Advisory Council as required by Section 201.682,
6 Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

7 (b) Not later than March 31, 2026, the Electric Truck
8 Advisory Council established under Subchapter H-2, Transportation
9 Code, as added by this Act, shall hold its initial meeting.

10 (c) Not later than March 1, 2027, the Electric Truck
11 Advisory Council shall submit the strategic plan required under
12 Section 201.688, Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.