

By: Walle

H.B. No. 3696

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the provision by railroad companies of hazardous
3 material incident training to certain fire and emergency medical
4 personnel and peace officers.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 193, Transportation Code, is amended by
7 adding Section 193.003 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 193.003. HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENT TRAINING FOR FIRE
9 AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND PEACE OFFICERS. (a) At least
10 quarterly, a railroad company subject to Section 193.002 shall
11 offer training on the handling of incidents related to hazardous
12 materials of the type the company transports to:

13 (1) fire protection personnel, as defined by Section
14 419.021, Government Code;

15 (2) volunteer firefighters certified by the Texas
16 Commission on Fire Protection or the State Firefighters' and Fire
17 Marshals' Association of Texas;

18 (3) emergency medical services personnel certified by
19 the Department of State Health Services who:

20 (A) are not affiliated with a hospital; and

21 (B) serve geographic areas not served by:

22 (i) a municipal fire department under
23 Chapter 342, Local Government Code; or

24 (ii) a county fire department under Chapter

1 352, Local Government Code; and

2 (4) peace officers, as defined by Article 2A.001, Code
3 of Criminal Procedure.

4 (b) Training under Subsection (a) must:

5 (1) be provided at the railroad company's expense;

6 (2) be substantially similar to training provided by a
7 company employee under Section 193.002(c)(5); and

8 (3) on request, accommodate virtual participation.

9 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
10 of this Act, the Texas Transportation Commission shall adopt rules
11 as necessary to implement Section 193.003, Transportation Code, as
12 added by this Act.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.