

By: Hernandez

H.B. No. 3826

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of the Texas Energy Efficiency Council.

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

4 SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 2, Utilities Code, is amended  
5 by adding Chapter 18 to read as follows:

## CHAPTER 18. TEXAS ENERGY EFFICIENCY COUNCIL

Sec. 18.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

10 (2) "Energy efficiency program" means a program  
11 designed to:

12 (A) increase efficient energy use;

17 (C) optimize energy consumption;

18 (D) identify and realize the benefits of energy  
19 efficient building design standards; or

20 (E) fund the implementation of energy cost  
21 reduction measures.

22 Sec. 18.002. PURPOSE. The Texas Energy Efficiency Council  
23 is a council established in the commission to evaluate and make  
24 recommendations for:

1                   (1) providing a statewide collaborative approach to  
2 promoting energy efficiency;

3                   (2) measuring, evaluating, and reporting on energy  
4 efficiency performance in this state;

5                   (3) creating a process for monitoring and enhancing  
6 energy efficiency programs in this state;

7                   (4) facilitating opportunities for coordination and  
8 leveraging of federal funding from the United States Department of  
9 Energy, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development,  
10 and other federal agencies that can be used by state agencies and  
11 political subdivisions for the purposes of enhancing energy  
12 efficiency; and

13                   (5) providing a central repository for information on  
14 statewide energy efficiency performance and opportunities to  
15 participate in energy efficiency programs in this state.

16                   Sec. 18.003. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP. (a) The council is  
17 composed of nine ex officio members as follows:

18                   (1) the presiding officer of the Texas Commission on  
19 Environmental Quality;

20                   (2) the chief executive officer of the Electric  
21 Reliability Council of Texas;

22                   (3) the presiding officer of the commission;

23                   (4) the comptroller;

24                   (5) the director of the Texas Department of Housing  
25 and Community Affairs;

26                   (6) the executive director of the Texas Economic  
27 Development and Tourism Office;

H.B. No. 3826

(7) the chairman of the Texas Water Development Board;  
(8) the director of the Energy Systems Laboratory at  
the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station of The Texas A&M  
University System; and

(9) the chief executive of the Office of Public Utility Counsel.

(b) An ex officio member may designate a person from the member's agency to serve in the member's place.

9                   (c) The presiding officer of the commission or an employee  
10                   designated by the presiding officer under Subsection (b) shall  
11                   serve as presiding officer of the council.

12                   (d) The council shall meet at least two times per year at the  
13 call of the presiding officer.

14                   Sec. 18.004. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The commission shall  
15                   provide the council with administrative support, including meeting  
16                   space and staff necessary to assist the council in carrying out the  
17                   council's duties under this chapter.

18                   Sec. 18.005. OFFICIAL INTERNET WEBSITES. The council shall  
19 use the following official Internet websites for the publication of  
20 information as required by this chapter:

23 (2) the website of the commission.

24                   Sec. 18.006. LIST OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS. (a) The  
25 council shall:

1 official Internet websites under Section 18.005; and  
2                   (2) work with the State Energy Conservation Office and  
3 the commission to develop and publish on the official Internet  
4 websites under Section 18.005 a user-friendly page that allows a  
5 consumer to search by the consumer's address energy efficiency  
6 programs available in the consumer's service area.

7                   (b) The State Energy Conservation Office and the commission  
8 each shall provide a link on their Internet websites to the page  
9 described by Subsection (a)(2).

10                  Sec. 18.007. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION. (a)  
11 Except as provided by this section, the council is not subject to  
12 Chapter 551 or 552, Government Code.

13                  (b) Information written, produced, collected, assembled, or  
14 maintained under law or in connection with the transaction of  
15 official business by the council or an officer or employee of the  
16 council is subject to Section 552.008, Government Code, in the same  
17 manner as public information.

18                  Sec. 18.008. BIENNIAL REPORT. The council biennially shall  
19 prepare a report that includes the evaluations and recommendations  
20 required by Section 18.002. The council shall submit the report to  
21 the legislature not later than January 15 of each odd-numbered  
22 year.

23                  Sec. 18.009. APPLICABILITY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE LAW.  
24 Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the council.

25                  SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

H.B. No. 3826

- 1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
- 2 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.