

By: Eckhardt

S.B. No. 526

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of green stormwater infrastructure in new state buildings.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter I, Chapter 2166, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER I. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION [~~OF ENERGY AND WATER~~]

SECTION 2. Subchapter I, Chapter 2166, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2166.409 to read as follows:

Sec. 2166.409. GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. (a) In this section, "green stormwater infrastructure" means infrastructure that absorbs and treats rainwater in order to limit erosion, habitat damage, property damage, and water pollution caused by flooding and to protect water quality, including rain gardens, bioswales, permeable pavement, green roofs and walls, and rain barrels.

(b) This section applies to the construction of a new state building, including a building project otherwise exempt from this chapter under Section 2166.003.

(c) The commission, or the governing body of the appropriate agency that is undertaking a building project otherwise exempt from this chapter under Section 2166.003, shall use green stormwater infrastructure in the construction of a state building.

1           SECTION 3. (a) The changes in law made by this Act apply  
2 only to a new state agency building contract or construction  
3 project for which a state agency first advertises or otherwise  
4 requests bids, proposals, offers, or qualifications, or makes a  
5 similar solicitation, on or after the effective date of this Act.

6           (b) A new state agency building contract or construction  
7 project for which a state agency first advertises or otherwise  
8 requests bids, proposals, offers, or qualifications, or makes a  
9 similar solicitation, before the effective date of this Act is  
10 governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective  
11 date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that  
12 purpose.

13           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.