

1-1 By: Menéndez S.B. No. 2850  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 14, 2025; April 7, 2025, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Water, Agriculture and  
1-4 Rural Affairs; May 13, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 13, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Perry	X		
1-9	Hancock	X		
1-10	Birdwell	X		
1-11	Blanco	X		
1-12	Gutierrez		X	
1-13	Hinojosa of Nueces	X		
1-14	Johnson	X		
1-15	Kolkhorst	X		
1-16	Sparks	X		

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the task force on pollinator health.  
1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
1-21 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 131, Agriculture Code, is  
1-22 amended by adding Section 131.011 to read as follows:  
1-23 Sec. 131.011. TASK FORCE ON POLLINATOR HEALTH. (a) In this  
1-24 section, "task force" means the task force on pollinator health  
1-25 under this section. The governor shall establish the task force and  
1-26 the membership of the task force.  
1-27 (b) The task force consists of members appointed by the  
1-28 governor, including:  
1-29 (1) one member who is a university faculty member  
1-30 specializing in the science of pollinator health;  
1-31 (2) one member representing an advocacy group for  
1-32 nurseries and greenhouse producers;  
1-33 (3) one member representing an advocacy group for  
1-34 agriculture in this state;  
1-35 (4) one member representing an advocacy group  
1-36 dedicated to the protection of pollinators and invertebrates;  
1-37 (5) one member representing an advocacy group for  
1-38 pesticide applicators;  
1-39 (6) one member who is certified as a master gardener by  
1-40 the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and who represents the  
1-41 public;  
1-42 (7) one member who is a beekeeper and who represents  
1-43 the public; and  
1-44 (8) one member who is an employee of the Parks and  
1-45 Wildlife Department who specializes in melittology.  
1-46 (c) The task force shall undertake activities to examine  
1-47 issues relevant to pollinator health, including:  
1-48 (1) identifying ways the state can incentivize the  
1-49 development of new pollinator habitat in residential, commercial,  
1-50 and public areas;  
1-51 (2) studying public education and outreach plans  
1-52 regarding pollinator health that have been successful in other  
1-53 states;  
1-54 (3) investigating the means used by other states to  
1-55 gather data on populations of bees or other pollinating insects;  
1-56 and  
1-57 (4) identifying ways to prevent loss of pollinator  
1-58 habitat.  
1-59 (d) The task force may take actions necessary and proper to  
1-60 carry out the work of the task force, including scheduling hearings  
1-61 and taking testimony on matters related to pollinator health.

(e) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(f) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.

(g) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as presiding officer.

(h) The governor shall appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy on the task force.

(i) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the presiding officer or of a majority of the members of the task force.

(j) The task force may adopt bylaws necessary for the operation of the task force.

(k) Not later than October 1, 2026, the task force shall submit a report, which may include recommendations for legislation, to the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over agriculture. The task force may provide progress reports to those committees before October 1, 2026.

(l) The governor may provide staff support to the task force.

(m) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

(n) Each state agency shall assist the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, shall furnish information and advice that the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

(o) A member of the task force may participate remotely in a meeting of the task force by means of a video conference call or online service.

(p) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 2. Not later than October 1, 2025, the governor shall appoint the members of the task force on pollinator health under Section 131.011(b), Agriculture Code, as added by this Act.

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

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