By: González of El Paso H.B. No. 920

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the study of plant disease and pest outbreaks by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 71, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Z to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Z. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 71.901. REPORT ON DISEASES AND PESTS. (a) In this section, "extension service" means the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

(b) The extension service shall annually conduct a study of each plant disease or pest outbreak in this state.

(c) In conducting the study under Subsection (b), the extension service shall determine for each outbreak of a plant disease or pest:

(1) the duration of the outbreak;

(2) how the outbreak was resolved, if applicable; and

(3) any other information the extension service determines is relevant.

(d) Not later than January 1 of each year, the extension service shall prepare and publish on the extension service's Internet website a report of the previous year's study conducted under this section.

(e) Not later than January 1, 2030, the extension service

shall prepare and publish on the extension service's Internet website a report summarizing each annual report published under Subsection (d) and providing policy recommendations to address outbreaks of plant diseases and pests. The extension service shall provide the report to the governor, commissioner, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives.

(f) This section expires January 31, 2030.

SECTION 2. 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, 2027.