

By: Allen

H.B. No. 437

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to an exemption from public disclosure for information
3 that is collected, assembled, or maintained for purposes of
4 emergency management or disaster planning.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 418.175, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 418.175. CERTAIN INFORMATION EXCEPTED FROM PUBLIC
9 DISCLOSURE [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]. (a) Information that [~~relates to~~
10 ~~physically or mentally disabled individuals or other medically~~
11 ~~fragile individuals and that~~] is collected, assembled, or
12 maintained for purposes of emergency management or disaster
13 planning is [~~confidential and~~] excepted from required disclosure
14 under Chapter 552 if the person in possession of the information
15 believes that disclosure of the information would compromise or
16 interfere with implementation of the emergency management or
17 disaster plan of the state, an agency or political subdivision of
18 the state, or an agency of a political subdivision of the state.

19 (b) This section applies to information in the possession of
20 any person, including:

21 (1) the state, an agency or [~~of the state, a~~] political
22 subdivision of the state, or an agency of a political subdivision of
23 the state; or

24 (2) an electric, telecommunications, gas, or water

1 utility.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.