

By: West

S.B. No. 92

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a residential tenant's right to summon police or emergency assistance.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 92, Property Code, is amended by adding Section 92.015 to read as follows:

Sec. 92.015. TENANT'S RIGHT TO SUMMON POLICE OR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. (a) A landlord may not:

(1) prohibit or limit a residential tenant's right to summon police or other emergency assistance in response to domestic violence or other conduct; or

(2) impose monetary or other penalties on a tenant who summons police or emergency assistance.

(b) The provisions of this section may not be waived by contract.

SECTION 2. A provision in a lease entered into or renewed before the effective date of this Act that does not comply with Section 92.015, Property Code, as added by this Act, is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.