

By: Madla

S.B. No. 363

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to annual reports filed with the Office of Rural Community Affairs by emergency services districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 775.083, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 775.083. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) On or before January 1 of each year, a district shall file with the Office of Rural Community Affairs [~~secretary of state~~] an annual report that includes the following:

(1) the district's name;

(2) the name of each county in which the district is located;

(3) the district's business address;

(4) the name, mailing address, and term of office of each commissioner;

(5) the name, mailing address, and term of office of the district's general manager, executive director, and fire chief;

(6) the name of each legal counsel or other consultant for the district; and

(7) the district's annual budget and tax rate for the preceding fiscal year.

(b) The Office of Rural Community Affairs [~~secretary of state~~] may not charge a fee for filing the report.

1       (c) The Office of Rural Community Affairs shall develop and  
2 maintain an Internet-based system that enables:

3           (1) a district to securely file the report and update  
4 the district's information; and

5           (2) the public to view, in a searchable format, the  
6 reports filed by districts under this section.

7       (d) If the information included in a district's annual  
8 report changes, the district shall update the district's  
9 information using the Internet-based system before the end of the  
10 calendar quarter in which the district's information changes.

11       SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 776, Health and Safety  
12 Code, is amended by adding Section 776.083 to read as follows:

13       Sec. 776.083. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) On or before January 1  
14 of each year, a district shall file with the Office of Rural  
15 Community Affairs an annual report that includes the following:

16           (1) the district's name;

17           (2) the name of each county in which the district is  
18 located;

19           (3) the district's business address;

20           (4) the name, mailing address, and term of office of  
21 each commissioner;

22           (5) the name, mailing address, and term of office of  
23 the district's general manager, executive director, and fire chief;

24           (6) the name of each legal counsel or other consultant  
25 for the district; and

26           (7) the district's annual budget and tax rate for the  
27 preceding fiscal year.

1           (b) The Office of Rural Community Affairs may not charge a  
2 fee for filing the report.

3           (c) The Office of Rural Community Affairs shall develop and  
4 maintain an Internet-based system that enables:

5                   (1) a district to securely file the report and update  
6 the district's information; and

7                   (2) the public to view, in a searchable format, the  
8 reports filed by districts under this section.

9           (d) If the information included in a district's annual  
10 report changes, the district shall update the district's  
11 information using the Internet-based system before the end of the  
12 calendar quarter in which the district's information changes.

13           SECTION 3. The Office of Rural Community Affairs shall  
14 develop an Internet-based system as required by Sections 775.083(c)  
15 and 776.083(c), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, before  
16 January 1, 2004.

17           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.