

By: Lindsay, Janek

S.B. No. 1360

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of trauma and emergency services revenue districts; authorizing local-option taxes subject to voter approval.

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

SECTION 1. The Health and Safety Code is amended by adding new Chapter 780 as follows:

CHAPTER 780. TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY SERVICES REVENUE DISTRICTS.

Sec. 780.001. CREATION. One or more counties, acting by order adopted by their respective commissioners courts, may create a trauma and emergency services revenue district under this chapter to provide for the support of a regional trauma and emergency services system.

Sec. 780.101. GOVERNANCE. The governing board of the district shall be composed of appointees made by the commissioners courts of the counties composing the district.

Sec. 780.101. DISSOLUTION. The board may make a petition to dissolve the district. The petition shall be approved by the voters of the counties composing the district.

Sec. 780.201. REMOVAL FROM DISTRICT. A county, by approval of the voters located in the county, may withdraw from the district.

Sec. 780.301. POWERS AND DUTIES. The board shall be

1 given generally established powers and duties to accomplish the  
2 mission of the district.

3 Sec. 780.401. TAX AUTHORIZED. (a) A district, with  
4 voter approval, may impose one or more of the following:

5 (1) a tax on cigarettes;

6 (2) a tax on alcoholic beverages consumed on or  
7 off premise;

8 (3) a sales tax not to exceed one-eighth of a  
9 penny.

10 (b) A district may impose a tax only if it has been approved  
11 by voters in the counties composing the district.

12 Sec. 780.501. TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND. The  
13 governing board shall establish by resolution a fund known as the  
14 regional trauma and emergency services fund. The board shall  
15 deposit all proceeds from any tax the board, with voter approval,  
16 imposes.

17 Sec. 780.601. DISTRIBUTION OF MONIES IN THE TRAUMA AND  
18 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND. The board, or its designee, shall  
19 distribute monies in the trauma and emergency services fund for the  
20 purposes of supporting a regional trauma and emergency services  
21 system.

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