

Amend CSSB 1547 by adding a new appropriately numbered SECTION to read as follows:

"SECTION___. Section 2170.003, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2170.003. OWNERSHIP OR LEASE OF NECESSARY EQUIPMENT. (a) The department may own, lease, or lease purchase in accordance with Chapters 2155, 2156, 2157, and 2158 any and all of the facilities or equipment necessary to provide telecommunications services. The department may acquire telecommunications services without competitive bid from the Lonestar Education and Research Network (LEARN) or its successors for the purposes established in subsection (b).

(b) During an emergency, a single node failure or a system wide failure of the consolidated telecommunications system, the department may divert telecommunications services traffic to LEARN to avoid service interruption. Upon resolution of the emergency and upon determination that the consolidated telecommunications system is operational, traffic will be diverted back to the consolidated telecommunications system. The department may also use LEARN for the purposes of latency tolerant data transfer of files to or from a consolidated state data center established and operated by the department. The LEARN shall be exclusively used by the department only for the purposes set out in this section."