```
1-2
1-3
                   (In the Senate - Filed March 23, 2005; March 30, 2005, read
         first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; May 2, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
 1-4
 1-5
 1-6
         May 2, 2005, sent to printer.)
         COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1814
 1-7
                                                                                    By: Gallegos
 1-8
                                          A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-9
                                                    AN ACT
         relating to the creation of the Southampton Neighborhood Services District; providing authority to impose an assessment, impose a tax, and issue bonds or similar obligations.
1-10
1-11
1-12
                  BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-13
1-14
1-15
         SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 4, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 3839 to read as follows:
1-16
                CHAPTER 3839. SOUTHAMPTON NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DISTRICT
                                 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
1-17
                         3839.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
1-18
1-19
1-20
                          (1)
                                 "Board"
                                            means the board
                                                                        of directors of the
          district.
1-21
                          (2)
                                 "District" means the Southampton Neighborhood
          Services District.
1-22
1-23
                  Sec. 3839.002.
                                         SOUTHAMPTON NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DISTRICT
         The Southampton Neighborhood Services District is a special district created under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

Sec. 3839.003. PURPOSE; DECLARATION OF INTENT. (a) The
1-24
1-25
1-26
          creation of the district is essential to accomplish the purposes of
1-27
         Sections 52 and 52-a, Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and other public purposes stated in this chapter. By creating the district and in authorizing the City of
1-28
1-29
1-30
         Houston, Harris County, and other political subdivisions to
1-31
         contract with the district, the legislature has established a program to accomplish the public purposes set out in Section 52-a,
1-32
1-33
         Article III, Texas Constitution.
(b) The creation of the district is necessary to provide
1-34
1-35
          enhanced and supplemental services to maintain and improve the
1-36
          common alleyways in the district and to promote and maintain the
1-37
         Southampton Neighborhood of Houston as a safe, clean, aesthetically pleasing, and deed-restricted residential neighborhood with
1-38
         pleasing, and deed-restricted sustainable high property values.
1-39
1-40
1-41
                   (c) This chapter and the creation of the district may not be
1-42
          interpreted to relieve Harris County or the City of Houston from
         providing the level of services provided as of the effective date of the Act enacting this chapter to the area in the district. The district is created to supplement and not to supplant the county or
1-43
1-44
1-45
         city services provided in the area in the district.
1-46
1-47
                  Sec. 3839.004. FINDINGS OF BENEFIT AND PUBLIC PURPOSE.
1-48
                 The district is created to serve a public use and benefit.
          (a)
         (b) All land and other property included in the district will benefit from the improvements and services to be provided by the district under powers conferred by Sections 52 and 52-a,
1-49
1-50
1-51
          Article III, and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and
1-52
         other powers granted under this chapter.
(c) The district will:
1-53
1-54
                          (1) promote the health, safety, and general welfare of
1-55
         district residents and of the public;
1-56
1-57
                          (2) provide enhanced and supplemental services
          preserve, maintain, and enhance the vitality of the district as a
1-58
          deed-restricted residential neighborhood; and
1-59
          (3) promote the health, safety, welfare, and enjoyment of the public by maintaining and improving the common alleyways and
1-60
1-61
          by landscaping and developing certain areas in the district, which
1-62
```

S.B. No. 1814

By: Ellis

1-1

1-63

are necessary for the restoration, preservation, and enhancement of

scenic beauty.

2-1

2-2 2-3 2 - 4

2-5 2-6

2-7

2-8 2-9 2-10

2-11

2-12

2-13

2-14 2-15 2-16

2-17

2-18

2-19

2-20 2-21 2-22

2-23 2-24

2-25 2-26

2-27

2-28

2-29

2-30

2-31

2-32 2-33

2-34 2-35 2-36 2-37

2-38 2-39 2-40 2-41 2-42

2-43

2-44 2-45 2-46 2-47

2-48 2-49 2-50 2-51 2-52

2-53

2-54

2**-**55 2-56 2-57

2-58 2-59 2-60 2-61 2-62

2-63

2-64 2-65 2-66

2-67

2-68 2-69

(d) Pedestrian ways along or across a street or alley, or alley lighting, street landscaping, and pavement associated with access ways connecting to, and drainage facilities related to the common alleyways are parts of and necessary components of a street or alley and are considered to be a street or road improvement.

(e) The district will not act as the agent or instrumentality of any private interest even though the district

will benefit many private interests as well as the public.

Sec. 3839.005. DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) The district is composed of the territory described by Section 3 of the Act enacting this chapter, as that territory may have been modified under:

(1) Subchapter J, Chapter 49, Water Code; or

other law.

The boundaries and field notes of the district contained in Section 3 of the Act enacting this chapter form a closure. A mistake in the field notes or in copying the field notes in the legislative process does not in any way affect the district's:

(1) organization, existence, or validity;
(2) right to issue any type of bond for a purpose for which the district is created or to pay the principal of and interest on the bond;

(3) right to impose or collect an assessment or tax; or

(4) legality or operation. 3839.006. APPLICABILITY OF MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS LAW. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, <u>Chapter 375, Local Government Code, applies to the district.</u>

Sec. 3839.007. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION OF CHAPTER. Chapter shall be liberally construed in conformity with findings and purposes stated in this chapter. This the

[Sections 3839.008-3839.050 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 3839.051. BOARD OF DIRECTORS; TERMS. (a) The district is governed by a board of 18 voting directors who serve staggered terms of two years, with nine directors' terms expiring December 31 of each year.

(b) The board by resolution may change the number of voting directors on the board, but only if the board determines that the change is in the best interest of the district. The board may not consist of fewer than 11 or more than 21 directors.

Sec. 3839.052. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS. The mayor and

members of the governing body of the City of Houston shall appoint directors from persons recommended by the board. A person is appointed if a majority of the members of the governing body, including the mayor, vote to appoint that person.

Sec. 3839.053. NONVOTING DIRECTORS. (a) The following

persons serve as nonvoting directors:

(1) the directors of the following departments of the City of Houston or a person designated by that director:

(A) parks and recreation;

(B) planning and development; and

(C) public works;

the City of Houston's chief of police; and

(3) each City of Houston council member whose council district is wholly or partly in the district.

(b) If a department described by Subsection consolidated, renamed, or changed, the board may appoint a director of the consolidated, renamed, or changed department as a nonvoting director. If a department described by Subsection (a) is abolished, the board may appoint a representative of another department that performs duties comparable to those performed by the abolished department.

Sec. 3839.054. QUORUM. For purposes of determining the requirements for a quorum of the board, the following are not

counted:

(1) a board position vacant for any reason, including death, resignation, or disqualification;
(2) a director who is abstaining from participation in

(a) The initial

3-1 3-2

3-3

3-4 3-5 3**-**6

3-7 3-8 3-9 3-10 3-11 3-12 3-13

3-14

3-15

3-16 3-17 3-18 3-19 3-20 3-21 3-22 3-23

3-24

3-25

3-26 3-27 3-28 3 - 293-30

3-31 3**-**32 3-33 3-34 3-35 3-36

3-37 3-38 3-39 3-40 3-41 3-42

3-43 3-44 3-45 3-46 3-47 3-48

3-49 3-50 3-51 3**-**52 3-53 3-54

3-55 3**-**56 3-57 3-58 3-59

3-60 3-61 3-62

3-65 3**-**66 3-67

3-63 3-68

3-64

3-69

3839.055. INITIAL VOTING DIRECTORS. board consists of the following voting directors: Pos. No.

Name of Director <u>Anne Clutterbuck</u> Les Randall Hugh Rice Kelly Sarah Darneille <u>Larry F</u>oust Patrick Pacheco Janet Peters

Ed Shoemake Peggy Vineyard Ed Kagi Chip Gill Licia Ellis Amy Anton <u>Erik Erik</u>sson Karen Gonsoulin Louisa Hernandez Chris Knapp Will Luedke

- Of the initial voting directors, the terms of directors appointed for positions 1 through 9 expire December 31, 2006, and the terms of directors appointed for positions 10 through 18 expire December 31, 2005.
 - (c) Section 3839.052 does not apply to this section.

(d)

This section expires September 1, 2007.

[Sections 3839.056-3839.100 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 3839.101. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. (a) The board by resolution may authorize the creation of a nonprofit corporation to assist and act for the district in implementing a project or providing a service authorized by this chapter.

(b) The nonprofit corporation:

(1) has each power of and is considered for purposes of this chapter 431, Training (2) this chapter to be a local government corporation created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code; and

may implement any project and provide any service

authorized by this chapter.

(c) The board shall appoint the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation. The board of directors of the nonprofit corporation shall serve in the same manner as the board of directors of a local government corporation created Transportation Code. under Chapter

Sec. 3839.102. AGREEMENTS; GRANTS. (a) The district may make an agreement with or accept a gift, grant, or loan from any

person. (b) (b) The implementation of a project is a governmental function or service for the purposes of Chapter 791, Government Code.

Sec. 3839.103. AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT. To protect the public interest, the district may contract with a qualified party, including Harris County, the City of Houston, or a nonprofit corporation, to provide supplemental law enforcement services in the district for a fee.

Sec. 3839.104. APPROVAL BY CITY OF HOUSTON. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the district must obtain the approval

of the City of Houston's governing body for:

(1) the issuance of a bond for each improvement

project; (2)

the plans and specifications of the improvement project financed by the bond; and

specifications of any (3) the plans and district improvement project related to the use of land owned by the City of Houston, an easement granted by the City of Houston, or a right-of-way of a street, road, or highway.

(b) The approval obtained for the issuance of bonds under

\$C.S.S.B.\$ No. 1814 Subsection (a) must be a resolution by the City of Houston. The 4-1 approval obtained for plans and specifications must be a permit 4-2 issued by the City of Houston. 4-3

4-4 4-5 4-6 4-7

4-8 4-9

4-10 4-11 4-12

4-13

4-14

4-15

4-16

4-17

4-18

4-19 4-20

4-21 4-22

4-23 4-24

4-25 4-26 4-27

4-28

4-29 4-30 4-31 4-32

4-33 4-34 4-35

4-36

4-37 4-38

4-39 4-40 4-41

4-42 4-43

4-44 4-45 4-46 4-47

4-48 4-49 4-50 4-51

4-52

4-53

4-54

4-55 4-56 4-57

4-58

4-59

4-60 4-61 4-62

4-63

4-64

4-65

4-66

4-67

4-68

4-69

(c) If the district obtains the approval of the City of Houston's governing body of a capital improvements budget for a period not to exceed five years, the district may finance the capital improvements and issue bonds specified in the budget without further approval from the City of Houston.

Sec. 3839.105. MEMBERSHIP IN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. The

district may join and pay dues to an organization that:
(1) enjoys tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), (4), or (6), Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(2) performs a service or provides activity

consistent with the furtherance of a district purpose.

CERTIFICATION CERTIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNERS' the board finds that it will benefit district Sec. 3839.106. ASSOCIATION. (a) If property and it is consistent with the district's purposes, the board by resolution may certify a nonprofit corporation whose members are the property owners of the district as a property owners' association under Chapter 204, Property Code.

(b) A nonprofit corporation certified by the board under this section is a property owners' association under Chapter 204, Property Code, and has the powers and duties of an association under that chapter. Certification under this section satisfies all procedural requirements regarding the creation of a property owners' association under that chapter, including the requirements

of Section 204.006, Property Code.

(c) Not later than the 30th day after the date of the board's resolution, the board shall file a notice of the certification in the real property records of Harris County. The notice must state that the nonprofit corporation is a property owners' association under Chapter 204, Property Code.

(d) The certification is permanent and may not be revoked.

Sec. 3839.107. NO EMINENT DOMAIN. The district may not exercise the power of eminent domain.

Sec. 3839.108. NOTICE OF LAW ESTABLISHING DISTRICT. The district by mail shall provide notification of the creation of the district to each person who owns real property in the district, according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for the county in which the real property is owned. The notice, properly addressed with postage paid, must be deposited with the United States Postal Service not later than the 90th day after the effective date of the Act enacting this chapter.

(b) The notice is sufficient if it contains a statement of the general purpose and substance of this chapter. Notice of the particular form of this chapter or the terms used in this chapter is

not required.

(c) This section expires September 1, 2007.

[Sections 3839.109-3839.150 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER D. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 3839.151. DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF MONE

OF MONEY. board by resolution shall establish the number of directors' signatures and the procedure required for a disbursement or transfer of the district's money.

Sec. 3839.152. MONEY USED FOR IMPROVEMENTS OR SERVICES. The district may acquire, construct, finance, operate, or maintain any improvement or service authorized under this chapter or Chapter 375, Local Government Code, using any money available to the district.

Sec. 3839.153. INITIAL SERVICE AND ASSESSMENT PLAN. The district's initial service and assessment plan must provide that:

(1) any assessment imposed must be paid in five years or less;

the rate of assessment for the first year of the plan may not exceed \$510 per residential household per year;

the rate of assessment may only be increased in a (3) later year of the plan:

(A) to account for increased costs of services;

and

5-1 5-2 5-3

5-4 5-5 5**-**6 5-7

5-8 5-9

5-10 5-11 5-12 5-13

5-14

5-15 5**-**16 5-17 5-18 5-19 5-20

5-21

5-22 5-23 5-24 5-25 5-26 5-27 5-28

5-29

5-30 5-31 5**-**32 5**-**33 5-34 5-35 5-36

5-37

5**-**38

5-39 5-40 5-41 5-42 5-43 5-44

5-45 5-46 5-47 5-48 5-49 5-50 5-51 5**-**52

5**-**53 5-54 5-55 5-56 5-57 5-58 5-59 5-60

5-61 5-62 5-63 5-64

5-65 5-66 5-67 5-68 5-69

(B) by a rate that does not exceed 10 percent of the previous year's assessment; and

> assessment revenue may only be used to pay for: (4)

garbage collection; (A)

(B) supplemental security and public safety; (C)

landscaping and beautification projects; study, design, and construction of alleyway (D)

repairs, improvements, and reconstruction;

formulation and adoption of neighborhood (E) deed restrictions; and

(F) other operation and administration costs of

the district.

(b) This section does not apply to a district service and assessment plan developed after the initial service and assessment plan.

This section expires September 1, 2012.

Sec. 3839.154. PETITION REQUIRED FOR FINANCING SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS WITH ASSESSMENTS. (a) The board may not finance a service or improvement project with assessments under this chapter unless a written petition requesting that service or improvement has been filed with the board.

The petition must be signed by the owners of a majority (b) the residences in the district subject to assessment according

- to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Harris County. Sec. 3839.155. METHOD OF NOTICE FOR HEARING. The distric The district give the notice required by Section 375.115(c), Local may Government Code, by personal delivery or certified United States mail or an equivalent service that can provide a record of mailing
- or delivery.

 Sec. 3839.156. ASSESSMENTS; FOR LIENS ASSESSMENTS. The board by resolution may impose and collect an assessment in all or part of the district for any purpose authorized by this c<u>ha</u>pter.
- (b) An assessment, a reassessment, or an assessment resulting from an addition to or correction of the assessment roll by the district, penalties and interest on an assessment or reassessment, an expense of collection, and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the district:
 - are a first and prior lien against the property
- assessed; are superior to any other lien or claim other than a lien or claim for county, school district, or municipal ad valorem taxes; and
- (3) are the personal liability of and a charge against the owners of the property even if the owners are not named in the assessment proceedings.
- The lien is effective from the date of the board's (c) resolution imposing the assessment until the date the assessment is paid. The board may enforce the lien in the same manner that the board may enforce an ad valorem tax lien against real property, except that the board may not foreclose on a residential homestead.
- (d) The board may make a correction to or deletion from the assessment roll that does not increase the amount of assessment of any parcel of land without providing notice and holding a hearing in the manner required for additional assessments.
- (e) Section 375.161, Local Government Code, does not apply to the district.
- UTILITY PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM IMPACT FEES AND Sec. 3839.157. ASSESSMENTS. The district may not impose an impact fee on the property, including the_ assessment equipment, rights-of-way, facilities, or improvements, of:
- (1) an electric utility or a power generation company as defined by Section 31.002, Utilities Code;
- (2) a gas utility as defined by Section 101.003 or 121.001, Utilities Code;
- (3) a telecommunications provider as defined by Section 51.002, Utilities Code; or
 - (4) a person who provides to the public cable

television or advanced telecommunications services

6-1

6-5

6-6 6-7

6-8 6-9

6-10

6-11

6-12

6-13 6-14

6**-**15 6**-**16

6-17

6-18 6-19 6-20 6-21 6-22 6-23

6-24

6-25 6-26 6-27

6-28

6-29

6-30 6-31

6-32 6-33

6-34

6-35

6-36

6-37

6-38 6-39 6-40 6-41

6-42 6-43

6-44 6-45 6-46 6-47

6-48

6-49 6-50 6-51 6-52

6-53 6-54 6-55 6-56 6-57

6-58

6-59 6-60 6-61

6-62

6-63

6-64

6-65 6-66 6-67

6-68 6-69

Sec. 3839.158. CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM 6-2 IMPACT FEES AND ASSESSMENTS. (a) An individual is entitled to an 6-3 6-4 exemption from an impact fee or assessment if:

(1) the individual is 65 years of age or older or is

disabled as defined by Section 11.13(m), Tax Code; and (2) the assessment will be imposed against property that the individual owns and occupies as a residence homestead.

- (b) To obtain the exemption, the individual must file with the board an affidavit stating the facts required by Subsection (a).
- Sec. 3839.159. BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS. district may issue bonds or other obligations, by competitive bid or negotiated sale, payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes, the assessments, impact fees, revenue, grants, or other money of district, or any combination of those sources of money, to pay for any authorized purpose of the district, except as provided by
- Subsection (b).

 (b) If the bonds are payable from ad valorem taxes, the bonds may only be used to pay for the design, construction, acquisition, improvement, maintenance, repair, reconstruction, and operation of streets, roads, and alleys, or improvements in and of those streets, roads, and alleys.
- (c) The district may issue a bond or other obligation in the form of a bond, note, certificate of participation or other instrument evidencing a proportionate interest in payments to be made by the district, or other type of obligation.
- Sec. 3839.160. TAXES FOR BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS. the time bonds or other obligations payable wholly or partly from ad
- valorem taxes are issued:

 (1) the board shall impose a continuing direct annual ad valorem tax, without limit as to rate or amount, for each year that all or part of the bonds are outstanding; and
- (2) the district annually shall impose the continuing direct ad valorem tax on all taxable property in the district in an amount sufficient to:
- (A) pay the interest on the bonds or other
- obligations as the interest becomes due;

 (B) create a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of the bonds or other obligations when due or the redemption price at any earlier required redemption date; and (C) pay the expenses of imposing the taxes.
- Sec. 3839.161. BOND ELECTIONS. (a) The district shall hold an election in the manner provided by Subchapter L, Chapter 375, Local Government Code, to obtain voter approval before the district issues bonds payable from ad valorem taxes.
- (b) The district may only issue bonds or other obligations Section 52(b)(3), Article III, Texas Constitution, if the issuance is approved by a two-thirds majority of the voters in the district voting at an election held for that purpose.

 (c) Section 375.243, Local Government Code, does not apply
- to the district.
- Sec. 3839.162. CITY NOT REQUIRED TO PAY DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS. Except as provided by Section 375.263, Local Government Code, the City of Houston is not required to pay a bond, note, or other obligation of the district.
- Sec. 3839.163. COMPETITIVE BIDDING. Section 375.221, Local Government Code, applies to the district only for a contract that has a value greater than \$25,000.

 [Sections 3839.164-3839.200 reserved for expansion]

 SUBCHAPTER E. DISSOLUTION

DISSOLUTION BY PETITION 3839.201. BY OWNERS. board shall dissolve the district on written petition filed with the board by the owners of 75 percent or more of the residential households in the district according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll for Harris County.

Sec. 3839.202. DISSOLUTION OF DISTRICT WITH OUTSTANDING

DEBT BY BOARD. The board may dissolve the district regardless of whether the district has debt. Section 375.264, Local Government

Code, does not apply to the district.

7-1

7-2

7-3 7 - 47-5 7-6

7-7 7-8 7-9

7-10 7-11 7-12

7-13

7-14 7-15 7-16 7-17

7-18

7-19

7-20 7-21 7-22

7-23

7-24 7-25 7-26 7-27 7-28 7-29

7-30 7-31 7-32

7-33

7-34

7-35 7-36 7-37

7-38 7-39 7-40

7-41

7-42

7-43

7-44

7-45

7-46 7-47 7-48

7-49

Sec. 3839.203. DEBTS. If the district has debt when it is dissolved under this subchapter, the district shall remain in existence solely for the purpose of discharging its debts. The dissolution is effective when all debts have been discharged.

SECTION 2. The Southampton Neighborhood Services District may reimburse the cost of creating the district from district assessments collected under Section 3839.153, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. As of the effective date of this Act, the Southampton Neighborhood Services District includes all territory contained in the following described area: from the intersection of the centerline of the right of way of Bissonnet Street and the centerline of the right of way of Greenbriar Drive, south to the intersection of the centerline of the right of way of Greenbriar Drive and the centerline of the right of way of Rice Boulevard, east to the intersection of the centerline of the right of way of Rice Boulevard and the centerline of the right of way of Ashby Street, north to the intersection of the centerline of the right of way of Ashby Street and the centerline of the right of way of Bissonnet Street, west to the intersection of the centerline of the right of way of Bissonnet Street and the centerline of the right of way of Greenbriar Drive, the point or place of beginning.

- SECTION 4. The legislature finds that:

 (1) proper and legal notice of the intention to introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies, officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished by the constitution and laws of this state, including the governor, who has submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;
- (2) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives within the required time;
- (3) the general law relating to consent by political subdivisions to the creation of districts with conservation, reclamation, and road powers and the inclusion of land in those districts has been complied with; and
- (4) all requirements of the constitution and laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act have been fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 5. 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 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

* * * * * 7-50