

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
80R3296 KSD-D

H.B. 1717  
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Intergovernmental Relations  
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Engrossed

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Across Texas, there are certain devices resembling fire hydrants in places where fire hydrants are expected to be placed. However, these devices are not usable for fire suppression. As a result, a fire department that does not know that these hydrants are not usable and are unable to obtain water flow, as well as persons in or near the area where a fire has broken out, face serious safety concerns. Such safety concerns may be avoided if those hydrants are identified as non-serviceable.

H.B. 1717 requires that all devices that resemble a fire hydrant but are non-functioning or unavailable for use in fire suppression be painted black.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 341, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 341.0357, as follows:

Sec. 341.0357. IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR DEVICE WITH APPEARANCE OF FIRE HYDRANT THAT IS NONFUNCTIONING OR UNAVAILABLE FOR USE IN FIRE EMERGENCY. Requires the owner of any device having the appearance of a fire hydrant that is located in a place that an entity responsible for providing fire suppression services in a fire emergency would expect a fire hydrant to typically be located to paint the device black if the device is nonfunctioning or otherwise unavailable for use by the entity providing fire suppression services in a fire emergency.

SECTION 2. Requires an owner of a device described in this Act, not later than January 1, 2008, to ensure that the device complies with the requirement imposed by this Act.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2007.