

By: Thompson

H.B. No. 918

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to duties of certain health care facilities in relation to residents who are sex offenders.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 242, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 242.018 and 242.019 to read as follows:

Sec. 242.018. SEX OFFENDER STATUS OF RESIDENTS. Not later than the third day after the date a person begins to reside in an institution, by using the Internet website maintained by the Department of Public Safety that contains the sex offender database, the institution shall determine whether the person is required to register under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure. If the institution determines that the person is required to register under that chapter, the institution shall notify the Department of Public Safety that the person is a resident in the institution.

Sec. 242.019. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIRED. Each institution required to notify the Department of Public Safety under Section 242.018 shall prominently and conspicuously post a sign for display in a public area of the institution that is frequently used by residents, employees, and visitors. The sign must clearly state that a person required to register with the Department of Public Safety as a sex offender currently resides in

1 the institution.

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 246, Health and Safety  
3 Code, is amended by adding Sections 246.008 and 246.009 to read as  
4 follows:

5 Sec. 246.008. SEX OFFENDER STATUS OF RESIDENTS. Not later  
6 than the third day after the date a person begins to reside in a  
7 facility, by using the Internet website maintained by the  
8 Department of Public Safety that contains the sex offender  
9 database, the facility shall determine whether the person is  
10 required to register under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure.  
11 If the facility determines that the person is required to register  
12 under that chapter, the facility shall notify the Department of  
13 Public Safety that the person is a resident in the facility.

14 Sec. 246.009. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIRED. Each facility  
15 required to notify the Department of Public Safety under Section  
16 246.008 shall prominently and conspicuously post a sign for display  
17 in a public area of the facility that is frequently used by  
18 residents, employees, and visitors. The sign must clearly state  
19 that a person required to register with the Department of Public  
20 Safety as a sex offender currently resides in the facility.

21 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 247, Health and Safety  
22 Code, is amended by adding Sections 247.007 and 247.008 to read as  
23 follows:

24 Sec. 247.007. SEX OFFENDER STATUS OF RESIDENTS. Not later  
25 than the third day after the date a person begins to reside in an  
26 assisted living facility, by using the Internet website maintained  
27 by the Department of Public Safety that contains the sex offender

1 database, the assisted living facility shall determine whether the  
2 person is required to register under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal  
3 Procedure. If the facility determines that the person is required  
4 to register under that chapter, the facility shall notify the  
5 Department of Public Safety that the person is a resident in the  
6 facility.

7 Sec. 247.008. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIRED. Each assisted  
8 living facility required to notify the Department of Public Safety  
9 under Section 247.007 shall prominently and conspicuously post a  
10 sign for display in a public area of the facility that is frequently  
11 used by residents, employees, and visitors. The sign must clearly  
12 state that a person required to register with the Department of  
13 Public Safety as a sex offender currently resides in the assisted  
14 living facility.

15 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply to the  
16 admission of a resident to a convalescent or nursing home, or  
17 related institution, a continuing care facility, or an assisted  
18 living facility that occurs on or after the effective date of this  
19 Act. An admission that occurs before the effective date of this Act  
20 is governed by the law in effect on the date of the admission, and  
21 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

22 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.