

By: Murphy

H.B. No. 3224

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creating a database of and issuing identification cards to certain essential first responder personnel who operate or restore critical infrastructure.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Sections 418.049 and 418.050 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.049. ESSENTIAL FIRST RESPONSE PERSONNEL DATABASE.

(a) In this section, "essential personnel" means an employee of a public or private entity who performs functions in the operation or restoration of critical infrastructure.

(b) The division shall create a database of essential personnel that includes information identifying the personnel, including:

(1) the full name of each individual designated as essential personnel;

(2) the employer of the individual;

(3) a photograph of the individual;

(4) the individual's job title, Texas driver's license number or Texas identification number, and reason for inclusion in the database;

(5) the sector of critical infrastructure employment;

(6) the phone number of the employer;

(7) any limitations as to access or responsibility;

1 and

2 (8) the signature of the individual.

3 (c) The division shall establish a procedure for  
4 designating an individual as essential personnel and allowing  
5 employers to view the database and request that an employee be added  
6 to or deleted from the database. This procedure shall require an  
7 employer to certify that each employee listed in the database has  
8 successfully completed a criminal background check.

9 Sec. 418.050. ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL IDENTIFICATION CARD. (a)  
10 The division shall issue identification cards to the employer for  
11 distribution to the employers essential personnel.

12 (b) The division shall establish standard information to be  
13 included on an identification card. The identification card must  
14 include the photograph of the individual to whom it is issued.

15 (c) The employer of an individual issued an identification  
16 card shall recover the identification card and return the card to  
17 the division at the time of the employee's resignation or  
18 termination.

19 (d) The identification card expires on a date specified by  
20 the division.

21 (e) If an identification card issued under this section is  
22 lost or stolen, the division may:

23 (1) require the individual to submit an affidavit  
24 executed by the individual to the division stating that the  
25 identification card was lost or stolen; and

26 (2) issue a duplicate identification card to the  
27 employer for distribution to the individual.

1        (f) An identification card issued under this section is a  
2        governmental record for purposes of Section 37.10, Penal Code.

3        SECTION 2. Not later than October 1, 2007, the division of  
4        emergency management in the office of the governor shall establish  
5        the infrastructure for the database and adopt procedures for  
6        maintaining the database, receiving information for the database,  
7        and issuing identification cards as required by Sections 418.049  
8        and 418.050, Government Code, as added by this Act.

9        SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.