

By: Herrero

H.B. No. 3943

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3943:

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C.S.H.B. No. 3943

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to requiring certain persons to receive training relating  
3 to emergency management.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 418, Government Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 418.005 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 418.005. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING. (a) Each  
8 elected public officer of the state or a political subdivision and  
9 each appointed public officer of the state or a political  
10 subdivision whose duties include emergency management  
11 responsibilities or who plays a role in emergency preparedness,  
12 response, or recovery shall complete a course of training provided  
13 or approved by the division of not less than three hours regarding  
14 the responsibilities of state and local governments under this  
15 chapter that is appropriate to the public officer's position.

16 (b) The public officer shall complete the training course  
17 required by Subsection (a) not later than the 180th day after the  
18 date the person takes the oath of office.

19 (c) The division shall develop and provide a training course  
20 related to the emergency management responsibilities of  
21 state-level officers and a training course related to the emergency  
22 management responsibilities of officers of political subdivisions.  
23 The division shall ensure that the training courses satisfy the  
24 requirements of Subsection (a).

1       (d) The division may provide the training and may also  
2 approve any acceptable course of training offered by a governmental  
3 body or other entity. The division shall ensure that at least one  
4 course of training approved or provided by the division is  
5 available on videotape or a functionally similar and widely  
6 available medium at no cost.

7       (e) The division or other entity providing the training  
8 shall provide a certificate of course completion to public officers  
9 who complete the training required by this section. A public  
10 officer who completes the training required by this section shall  
11 maintain and make available for public inspection the record of the  
12 public officer's completion of the training.

13       (f) The failure of one or more public officers of the state  
14 or a political subdivision to complete the training required by  
15 this section does not affect the validity of an action taken by the  
16 state or the political subdivision.

17       (g) The hours spent in a training course required by  
18 Subsection (a) may be applied toward the continuing education  
19 requirements for county commissioners under Section 81.0025, Local  
20 Government Code.

21       SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2009, each public  
22 officer who has taken the oath of office for a state or local  
23 government office before January 1, 2008, and who is required to  
24 complete a course of training under Section 418.005, Government  
25 Code, as added by this Act, must complete the training.

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