

By: Herrero

H.B. No. 3943

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring certain public officials to receive training relating to emergency management.

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

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

Sec. 418.005. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING. (a) Each elected or appointed public official of the state or a political subdivision shall complete a course of training of not less than five and not more than eight hours regarding the responsibilities of the state or political subdivision under this chapter not later than the 90th day after the date the member:

(1) takes the oath of office, if the person is required to take an oath of office to assume the person's duties as an elected or appointed public official of the state or a political subdivision; or

(2) otherwise assumes responsibilities as an elected or appointed public official of the state or a political subdivision, if the person is not required to take an oath of office to assume the person's office.

(b) The division shall ensure that the training is made available. The division may provide the training and may also approve any acceptable course of training offered by a governmental body or other entity. The division shall ensure that at least one

1 course of training approved or provided by the division is
2 available on videotape or a functionally similar and widely
3 available medium at no cost.

4 (c) The division or other entity providing the training
5 shall provide a certificate of course completion to persons who
6 complete the training required by this section. A public official
7 shall maintain and make available for public inspection the record
8 of the public official's completion of the training.

9 (d) The failure of one or more public officials of the state
10 or a political subdivision to complete the training required by
11 this section does not affect the validity of an action taken by the
12 state or the political subdivision.

13 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2009, each elected or
14 appointed public official of the state or a political subdivision
15 of the state who has taken the oath of office or otherwise assumed
16 the person's responsibilities before January 1, 2008, must complete
17 a course of training required by Section 418.005, Government Code,
18 as added by this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2008.