

By: Gallegos

S.B. No. 1928

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of a community telephone emergency notification system as part of the 9-1-1 system.

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

SECTION 1. Section 771.051(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The commission is the state's authority on emergency communications. The commission shall:

(1) administer the implementation of statewide 9-1-1 service and the telecommunications requirements for poison control centers under Chapter 777;

(2) develop minimum performance standards for equipment and operation of 9-1-1 service to be followed in developing regional plans under Section 771.055, including requirements that the plans provide for:

(A) automatic number identification by which the telephone number of the caller is automatically identified at the public safety answering point receiving the call; ~~and~~

(B) operation of a community telephone emergency notification system that can be used to disseminate quickly critical information to large numbers or targeted groups of individuals and businesses; and

(C) other features the commission considers appropriate;

1           (3) examine and approve or disapprove regional plans  
2 as provided by Section 771.056;

3           (4) recommend minimum training standards, assist in  
4 training, and provide assistance in the establishment and operation  
5 of 9-1-1 service;

6           (5) allocate money to prepare and operate regional  
7 plans as provided by Section 771.056;

8           (6) develop and provide public education materials and  
9 training;

10          (7) plan, implement, operate, and maintain poison  
11 control center databases and assist in planning, supporting, and  
12 facilitating 9-1-1 databases, as needed;

13          (8) provide grants or contracts for services that  
14 enhance the effectiveness of 9-1-1 service;

15          (9) coordinate emergency communications services and  
16 providers;

17          (10) make reasonable efforts to gain voluntary  
18 cooperation in the commission's activities of emergency  
19 communications authorities and providers outside the commission's  
20 jurisdiction, including:

21               (A) making joint communications to state and  
22 federal regulators; and

23               (B) arranging cooperative purchases of equipment  
24 or services; and

25          (11) accept, receive, and deposit in its account in  
26 the general revenue fund gifts, grants, and royalties from public  
27 and private entities. Gifts, grants, and royalties may be used for

1 the purposes of the commission.

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Health and Safety  
3 Code, is amended by adding Section 772.003 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 772.003. COMMUNITY TELEPHONE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION  
5 SYSTEM. Notwithstanding any other law, an emergency communication  
6 district shall provide as part of the 9-1-1 system for each  
7 participating jurisdiction a community telephone emergency  
8 notification system that can be used to disseminate quickly  
9 critical information to large numbers or targeted groups of  
10 individuals and businesses.

11 SECTION 3. (a) The Commission on State Emergency  
12 Communications shall adopt the performance standards relating to a  
13 community telephone emergency notification system as required by  
14 Section 771.051(a), Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act,  
15 not later than October 1, 2007.

16 (b) Each regional planning commission, as that term is  
17 defined by Section 771.001, Health and Safety Code, shall submit an  
18 amendment to that commission's regional plan not later than January  
19 1, 2008. The amendment must describe the procedures the regional  
20 planning commission will use to fully implement a community  
21 telephone emergency notification system not later than July 1,  
22 2008.

23 (c) An emergency communication district shall fully  
24 implement a community telephone emergency notification system as  
25 required by Section 772.003, Health and Safety Code, as added by  
26 this Act, not later than July 1, 2008.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.