

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R10532 ALB-D

H.B. 2558
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Intergovernmental Relations
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Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Prior to and following a natural disaster or emergency, it is essential for local emergency responders to be aware of which individuals may be homebound and in need of emergency assistance. Many times the elderly and those with special needs do not register themselves with the 2-1-1 Texas Information and Referral Network (2-1-1 Network) that allows emergency responders to know in advance which individuals may be in need of emergency assistance. Home and community support agencies provide direct services to many of these individuals and are in excellent position to assist these individuals in registering with the 2-1-1 Network.

H.B. 2558 requires home and community support services agencies to assist clients as necessary in registering for disaster evacuation assistance through the 2-1-1 Network and to counsel clients as necessary regarding disaster preparedness.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter A, Chapter 142, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 142.0201, as follows:

Sec. 142.0201. REGISTRATION FOR EVACUATION; DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. Requires a home and community support services agency to assist clients as necessary with registering for disaster evacuation assistance through 2-1-1 services provided by the Texas Information and Referral Network and counsel clients as necessary regarding disaster preparedness.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2009.