

By: Edwards

H.B. No. 1026

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1026:

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C.S.H.B. No. 1026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishing legislative district volunteer emergency response teams.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 11, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 364 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 364. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

Sec. 364.001. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS. Each district within 100 miles of the Gulf of Mexico from which a member of the state house of representatives is elected may form a district volunteer emergency response team to:

(1) increase the number of trained volunteer responders in the district;

(2) assist local government to coordinate information among district residents and local and state government officials;

(3) assist local and state government to coordinate distribution of aid during a disaster or emergency; and

(4) serve as a source of information to the residents of the district.

Sec. 364.002. TEAM MEMBERSHIP. Each district volunteer emergency response team may include:

(1) licensed amateur radio operators;

(2) persons who have a medical background; and

1 (3) persons who have completed Federal Emergency
2 Management Agency Incident Command System training classes 100,
3 200, 700, and 800A.

4 Sec. 364.003. DUTIES OF TEAM. The district volunteer
5 emergency response team shall collaborate with county and municipal
6 emergency management entities to determine the scope of work and
7 duties of the team.

8 Sec. 364.004. COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS. Each communications
9 center may contain an amateur radio operator, radio equipment, and
10 wireless Internet access.

11 Sec. 364.005. MEDICAL TRIAGE TRANSPORT STAGING DUTIES. (a)
12 The medical triage transport staging site may:

13 (1) be equipped with a generator;
14 (2) include restroom facilities, showers, and a food
15 preparation location;

16 (3) have available an amateur radio operator;
17 (4) have equipment that has the capacity to produce
18 ice; and

19 (5) be located in an area that is not subject to
20 flooding during a category four hurricane.

21 (b) The district volunteer emergency response team shall
22 coordinate with county and municipal emergency management entities
23 and the elected state representative representing the district
24 about the location of the medical triage transport staging site.

25 Sec. 364.006. APPROPRIATIONS. Each district volunteer
26 emergency response team that complies with the requirements of this
27 chapter may be eligible to receive money appropriated by the state.

1 Sec. 364.007. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNTY. The county in
2 which most of the district residents reside may:

3 (1) administer the district volunteer emergency
4 response team's funds, including any money appropriated to the team
5 by the state;

6 (2) make purchases for the team; and

7 (3) provide the team with appropriate volunteer
8 equipment.

9 Sec. 364.008. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON. The state
10 representative whose district creates a district volunteer
11 emergency response team shall serve as a liaison for the team. Each
12 state senator that represents the district may also serve as a
13 liaison.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.