

By: Edwards

H.B. No. 1026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to establishing legislative district emergency response  
3 teams.

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

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

7 CHAPTER 364. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

8 Sec. 364.001. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
9 TEAMS. Each district from which a member of the state house of  
10 representatives is elected may form a district emergency response  
11 team to:

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

14 (2) coordinate information and planning among  
15 district residents and local, state, and federal government  
16 officials;

17 (3) coordinate distribution of aid during a disaster  
18 or emergency; and

19 (4) serve as a source of information to the government  
20 responders and the residents of the district.

21 Sec. 364.002. TEAM MEMBERSHIP. (a) Each district  
22 emergency response team must include:

23 (1) at least two licensed amateur radio operators;

24 (2) at least three persons who have a medical

1 background; and

2 (3) at least two persons who have completed Federal  
3 Emergency Management Agency Incident Command System training  
4 classes 300 and 400.

5 (b) Each team member must complete Federal Emergency  
6 Management Agency Incident Command System training classes 100,  
7 200, 700, and 800A.

8 (c) A team for a district located within 100 miles of the  
9 Gulf of Mexico must have at least 30 members between June 1 and  
10 November 30.

11 Sec. 364.003. POWERS AND DUTIES OF TEAM. The district  
12 emergency response team shall collaborate with the Federal  
13 Emergency Management Agency, the office of the governor, and other  
14 state and federal agencies to:

15 (1) develop an emergency operations plan for the  
16 district;

17 (2) establish:

18 (A) strategically located neighborhood  
19 distribution sites for the distribution of aid during a disaster or  
20 emergency and notify residents of the district about the locations  
21 of the distribution sites;

22 (B) communications centers in the district that  
23 would work with existing emergency operations plans of the  
24 municipality and county to relay information to district residents  
25 during a disaster or emergency; and

26 (C) a medical triage transport staging site in  
27 the district; and

1           (3) meet with the state representative and senator  
2 from the district to review the emergency operations plan.

3           Sec. 364.004. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN. (a) A district  
4 emergency response team must file an emergency operations plan with  
5 each municipality and county in which the district is located.

6           (b) The emergency operations plan must meet the Federal  
7 Emergency Management Agency's guidelines for emergency operations  
8 plans. The plan must be reviewed by an experienced neighborhood  
9 responder before the team files the plan with the local  
10 governmental entity.

11           (c) The team must consult with local essential businesses,  
12 utility companies, and school districts in the development of the  
13 emergency operations plan.

14           Sec. 364.005. COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS. Each communications  
15 center must contain an amateur radio operator, radio equipment, and  
16 wireless Internet access.

17           Sec. 364.006. MEDICAL TRIAGE TRANSPORT STAGING SITE. (a)  
18 The medical triage transport staging site must:

19           (1) be equipped with a generator that has the capacity  
20 to power medical apparatuses used for treating life-threatening  
21 illnesses;

22           (2) house residents with medical conditions whose  
23 health care treatment requires the use of electricity;

24           (3) include restroom facilities, showers, and a food  
25 preparation location;

26           (4) have available an amateur radio operator;

27           (5) have equipment that has the capacity to produce

1 ice; and

2 (6) be located in an area that is not subject to  
3 flooding during a category four hurricane.

4 (b) The district emergency response team shall notify the  
5 municipality, county, state, and federal emergency management  
6 organizations and each state and federal elected official  
7 representing the district about the location of the medical triage  
8 transport staging site.

9 (c) The team shall coordinate emergency plans with health  
10 care providers in the district to ensure the delivery of health care  
11 during a disaster or emergency.

12 Sec. 364.007. APPROPRIATIONS. Each district emergency  
13 response team that complies with the requirements of this chapter  
14 is eligible to receive money appropriated by the state.

15 Sec. 364.008. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNTY. The county in  
16 which most of the district residents reside shall:

17 (1) administer the district emergency response team's  
18 funds, including any money appropriated to the team by the state;

19 (2) make purchases for the team;

20 (3) provide the team with:

21 (A) two amateur radios;

22 (B) five wireless Internet stations;

23 (C) 12 cameras; and

24 (D) one generator to power the medical triage  
25 area; and

26 (4) provide storage for the team's equipment.

27 Sec. 364.009. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON. The state

1 representative whose district creates a district emergency  
2 response team shall serve as a liaison for the team. Each state  
3 senator that represents the district may also serve as a liaison.

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