

1-1 By: Turner of Harris (Senate Sponsor - Ellis) H.B. No. 2827
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2009;
1-3 May 6, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Intergovernmental Relations; May 18, 2009, reported favorably by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 18, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the establishment of the emergency housing and disaster
1-9 recovery division within the Texas Department of Housing and
1-10 Community Affairs.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 2306.0521, Government Code, is amended
1-13 by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

1-14 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the department shall
1-15 establish and maintain an emergency housing and disaster recovery
1-16 division. The division shall:

1-17 (1) develop a program to provide for the rapid
1-18 deployment of temporary housing for homeowners affected by natural
1-19 disasters;

1-20 (2) develop a program to quickly restore or replace
1-21 permanent housing for homeowners affected by natural disasters;

1-22 (3) develop a program to quickly provide additional
1-23 rental housing to areas affected by natural disasters;

1-24 (4) provide funding to nonprofit agencies that provide
1-25 to homeowners affected by natural disasters counseling on
1-26 refinancing options and financial assistance available through
1-27 state and federal programs; and

1-28 (5) collaborate with the division of emergency
1-29 management established under Chapter 418 and the Federal Emergency
1-30 Management Agency to secure reimbursement for housing needs in
1-31 areas affected by natural disasters.

1-32 SECTION 2. Section 2306.056, Government Code, is amended by
1-33 adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

1-34 (c) If federal or state money, other than money appropriated
1-35 to the department under a current services budget for the state
1-36 fiscal biennium prepared for the state budgetary process is
1-37 allocated to the department to address the results of a natural
1-38 disaster, the board may appoint a committee composed of residents
1-39 of the affected area. The committee shall serve until 90 percent of
1-40 the money allocated to the department to address the results of the
1-41 natural disaster has been spent. The committee shall advise the
1-42 department and the emergency housing and disaster recovery division
1-43 with regards to resource allocation.

1-44 (d) The department shall develop and implement policies
1-45 that provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to appear
1-46 periodically before a committee created under Subsection (c) and to
1-47 speak on any issue under the jurisdiction of the emergency housing
1-48 and disaster recovery division.

1-49 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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