

By: Davis of Dallas

H.B. No. 3168

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a natural disaster reconstruction demonstration initiative.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER I. NATURAL DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION

DEMONSTRATION INITIATIVE

Sec. 418.201. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Department" means the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

(2) "Initiative" means the natural disaster reconstruction demonstration initiative established under this subchapter.

Sec. 418.202. ESTABLISHMENT OF INITIATIVE. The division and the department shall establish the natural disaster reconstruction demonstration initiative.

Sec. 418.203. INITIATIVE ACTIVITIES. (a) In establishing the initiative, the division and department shall jointly develop a plan for the best methods of securing temporary housing and reconstructing permanent housing for persons displaced by a natural disaster.

(b) In developing the plan, the division and department shall examine:

1           (1) ways to provide the maximum amount of housing  
2 assistance on an expedited basis through the use of federal and  
3 state sources of assistance;

4           (2) sources of federal, state, and private funding to  
5 provide temporary and permanent housing assistance;

6           (3) the availability of federal and state surplus  
7 property for temporary and permanent housing;

8           (4) the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing  
9 properties or the construction of new properties to replace housing  
10 lost in a natural disaster; and

11           (5) the establishment of an authority responsible for  
12 administering housing programs for persons affected by a natural  
13 disaster.

14           (c) In developing the initiative and plan, the division and  
15 the department shall solicit input from persons impacted from past  
16 natural disasters and from other interested persons.

17           Sec. 418.204. PILOT PROJECT. (a) The division and the  
18 department shall conduct a pilot project to secure housing for  
19 persons who, as of September 1, 2009, remain displaced by Hurricane  
20 Rita or Hurricane Ike.

21           (b) This section expires January 1, 2011.

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