

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a disaster and emergency education program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.186 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.186. DISASTER AND EMERGENCY EDUCATION. (a) The Department of State Health Services shall establish a program designed to educate the citizens of this state on disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Before establishing the program, the department must collaborate with local authorities to prevent state efforts that are duplicative of local efforts. The program must address:

- (1) types of disasters or other emergencies;
- (2) the appropriate response to each type of disaster or emergency, including options for evacuation and shelter;
- (3) how to prepare for each type of disaster or emergency;
- (4) the impact of each type of disaster or emergency on citizens requiring medical assistance or other care;
- (5) ways to respond in a disaster or emergency or to assist the victims of a disaster or emergency; and
- (6) resources and supplies for disaster or emergency recovery.

1       (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
2 Services Commission, in cooperation with the governor, shall adopt  
3 rules to create and administer a disaster and emergency education  
4 program established under this section.

5       SECTION 2. As soon as possible after the effective date of  
6 this Act, but not later than January 1, 2010, the executive  
7 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, in  
8 cooperation with the governor, shall adopt rules to create and  
9 administer a disaster and emergency education program established  
10 under Section 418.186, Government Code, as added by this Act.

11       SECTION 3. This Act does not make an appropriation. A  
12 provision in this Act that creates a new governmental program,  
13 creates a new entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a governmental  
14 entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the  
15 legislature has not made a specific appropriation to implement the  
16 provision.

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