

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1485

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the sale of surplus or salvage property and
3 firefighting equipment by an emergency services district.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code, is amended
6 by adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

7 SUBCHAPTER I. SURPLUS AND SALVAGE PROPERTY

8 Sec. 775.251. SALE AND DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS OR SALVAGE
9 PROPERTY. (a) In this section:

10 (1) "Salvage property" means personal property, other
11 than wastepaper, that because of use, time, or accident is so
12 damaged, used, or consumed that it has no value for the purpose for
13 which it was originally intended.

14 (2) "Surplus property" means personal property that is
15 in excess of the needs of its owner, that is not required for the
16 owner's foreseeable needs, and that possesses some usefulness for
17 the purpose for which it was intended or for some other purpose.

18 (3) "Volunteer fire department" means an association
19 that:

20 (A) operates firefighting equipment;

21 (B) is organized primarily to provide and
22 actively provides firefighting services;

23 (C) does not pay its members compensation other
24 than nominal compensation; and

1 (D) does not distribute any of its income to its
2 members, officers, or governing body, other than for reimbursement
3 of expenses.

4 (b) Notwithstanding other law, a district may sell surplus
5 firefighting equipment, including equipment described by Sections
6 419.040 and 419.041, Government Code, to any volunteer fire
7 department or district in this state for fair market value if the
8 equipment:

9 (1) met the National Fire Protection Association
10 Standards at the original time of purchase; and

11 (2) at the time of the sale:

12 (A) meets the National Fire Protection
13 Association Standards in effect at the original time of purchase;
14 or

15 (B) meets the National Fire Protection
16 Association Standards in effect.

17 (c) A district may contract to supply surplus property to
18 any volunteer fire department or district in this state at fair
19 market value.

20 (d) A district may sell salvage property to any person in
21 this state for fair market value. If a district is unable to sell
22 the property for fair market value, the district may destroy or
23 otherwise dispose of the property as worthless.

24 (e) The district may determine the fair market value of
25 surplus and salvage property sold under Subsections (b), (c), and
26 (d).

27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.