

By: Gallegos

S.B. No. 2183

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the appointment of an interoperability coordinator in the division of emergency management in the office of the governor.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.049 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.049. INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATOR. (a) The governor shall appoint an interoperability coordinator of the division. The interoperability coordinator serves at the pleasure of the governor.

(b) The interoperability coordinator is responsible for coordinating communication among state agencies, law enforcement agencies, and local government agencies in the state in response to disasters.

(c) The interoperability coordinator, in consultation with state agencies, law enforcement agencies, and local government agencies, shall develop and implement an interoperability plan to address the state's public safety communication systems, processes, and procedures. In developing the plan, the interoperability coordinator shall:

(1) solicit input from fire fighters, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, public health officials, hospital officials, transportation officials, and other interested persons; and

1 (2) coordinate programs in the governor's office to
2 promote interoperable communications, including the governor's
3 interoperable radio communications program established under
4 Subchapter F, Chapter 421, and the duties of the governor's office
5 under Section 421.901.

6 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
7 of this Act, the governor shall appoint the interoperability
8 coordinator as required by Section 418.049, Government Code, as
9 added by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.