

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 24, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable John Carona, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB1741** by Carona (Relating to emergency management.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for SB1741, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$195,723) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2010	(\$108,109)
2011	(\$87,614)
2012	(\$87,614)
2013	(\$87,614)
2014	(\$87,614)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1</b>	<b>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009</b>
2010	(\$108,109)	1.0
2011	(\$87,614)	1.0
2012	(\$87,614)	1.0
2013	(\$87,614)	1.0
2014	(\$87,614)	1.0

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would amend the Government Code pertaining to emergency management and Chapter 771 of the Health and Safety Code pertaining to state administration of emergency communications.

The bill would require the Texas Engineering Extension Service to develop continuing education credits for employees or volunteers who are elected or appointed to positions relating to emergency management.

The bill would require the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) in coordination with the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to include provisions for assisting local shelter operations and minimum standards for shelter operations in the state emergency management plan.

The bill would require GDEM to develop regional planning for health care surge capacity with the assistance of DSHS.

The bill would allow GDEM to organize and temporarily activate disaster reservists to support recovery operations in the aftermath of a disaster or major emergency and pay them at a daily rate commensurate with their qualifications and experience.

The bill would require the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) to provide education to local officials on the operation of the Emergency Alert System.

The bill also would abolish the Disaster Emergency Funding Board on September 1, 2009 by repealing Government Code, Section 418.072.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.

### **Methodology**

It is assumed that the costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within existing resources for all agencies except CSEC.

The anticipated cost for CSEC to implement the provisions requiring CSEC to provide education for local officials on the operation of the Emergency Alert System, includes one additional FTE – a Training Specialist V. The Specialist would conduct training workshops at two of the quarterly meetings held at each of the twenty-four regional planning councils.

Included in costs are expenses related to travel. Calculations apply current maximum travel reimbursement rates for lodging, meals and mileage and include costs for airfare and vehicle rental in instances where necessary.

General Revenue would fund the Training Specialist position and related expenses. Currently, the agency does not receive appropriations from General Revenue. The majority of the agency's budget is funded through two General Revenue–Dedicated accounts, Account 5007 (Equalization Surcharge) and Account 5050 (9-1-1 Service Fees). However, neither account under current statute may be used by CSEC for expenses unrelated to the provision of 9-1-1 telecommunication services or poison centers.

### **Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 301 Office of the Governor, 405 Department of Public Safety, 477 Commission on State Emergency Communications, 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of, 716 Texas Engineering Extension Service

**LBB Staff:** JOB, KJG, MS, BTA, LG, TP, SK, KK, LCO