

1-1 By: Rodriguez, Martinez (Senate Sponsor - Watson) H.B. No. 993
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 31, 2011;
1-3 April 13, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Transportation and Homeland Security; May 9, 2011, reported
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 9, 2011,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the closure of a road or highway by certain
1-10 firefighters.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 546, Transportation Code,
1-13 is amended by adding Section 546.007 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 546.007. CLOSURE OF ROAD OR HIGHWAY BY FIREFIGHTER.

1-15 (a) This section applies only to a firefighter who is employed by
1-16 or a member of:

1-17 (1) a fire department operated by an emergency
1-18 services district;

1-19 (2) a volunteer fire department; or

1-20 (3) a fire department of a general-law municipality.

1-21 (b) A firefighter, when performing the firefighter's
1-22 official duties, may close one or more lanes of a road or highway to
1-23 protect the safety of persons or property.

1-24 (c) The closure shall be limited to the affected lane or
1-25 lanes and one additional lane unless the safety of emergency
1-26 personnel operating on the road or highway requires more lanes to be
1-27 closed.

1-28 (d) In making a closure under this section, the firefighter
1-29 shall deploy one or more authorized emergency vehicles with audible
1-30 and visual signals that meet the requirements of Sections 547.305
1-31 and 547.702.

1-32 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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