By: Fletcher (Senate Sponsor - Nelson)

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2013; April 29, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human Services; May 13, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 13, 2013, sent to printer.) 1-1 1-2 1-3 1-4

COMMITTEE VOTE 1-6

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Nelson	X			
1-9	Deuell	Х			
1-10	Huffman	X			
1-11	Nichols	X			
1-12	Schwertner	Х			
1-13	Taylor			X	
1-14	Uresti	X			
1-15	West	X			
1-16	Zaffirini	Х			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1-18 AN ACT

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1-60 1-61 relating to measures to prevent or control the entry into or spread in this state of certain communicable diseases; providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 81.003, Health and Safety Code,

amended by adding Subdivision (4-a) to read as follows:

(4-a) "Peace officer" has the meaning assigned by
Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure. The term includes a

sheriff or constable.

SECTION 2. Section 81.083, Health and Safety Code, amended by adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

A peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, may

use reasonable force to:

(1) secure the members of a group subject to an order issued under Subsection (k); and

(2) except as directed by the department or health prevent the members from leaving the group or other

individuals from joining the group.

SECTION 3. Section 81.084, Health and Samended by adding Subsection (1) to read as follows: Health and Safety Code,

(1) A peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, may use reasonable force to:

(1) secure a property subject to a court order issued under this section; and

(2) except as directed by the department or health prevent an individual from entering or leaving the authority,

property subject to the order.

SECTION 4. Section 81.085, Health and Safety Code, amended by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

A peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, may (j) use reasonable force to:

(1) secure a quarantine area; and
(2) except as directed by the department or health authority, prevent an individual from entering or leaving quarantine area.

SECTION 5. Section 81.162, Health and Safety Code, amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h) The judge or magistrate may direct a peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, to prevent a person who is the subject of a protective custody order from leaving the facility designated to detain the person if the court finds that a threat to the public health exists because the person may attempt to leave the facility.

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SECTION 6. Section 81.163, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

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(a) A protective custody order shall direct a peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, to take the person who is the subject of the order into protective custody and transport the person immediately to an appropriate inpatient health facility that has been designated by the commissioner as a suitable place.

(f) A protective custody order issued under Section 81.162 may direct an emergency medical services provider to provide an ambulance and staff to immediately transport the person who is the subject of the order to an appropriate inpatient health facility designated by the order or other suitable facility. The provider may seek reimbursement for the costs of the transport from any appropriate source.

appropriate source.

SECTION 7. Section 81.185, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(a) The order for temporary detention shall direct a peace officer, including a sheriff or constable, to take the person into custody and immediately transport the person to an appropriate inpatient health care facility. The person shall be transported to a facility considered suitable by the health authority if an appropriate inpatient health care facility is not available.

(e) The order for temporary detention may direct an emergency medical services provider to provide an ambulance and staff to immediately transport the person who is the subject of the order to an appropriate inpatient health care facility designated by the order or other suitable facility. The provider may seek reimbursement for the costs of the transport from any appropriate source.

SECTION 8. Section 81.190, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(g) If the department or health authority advises the court that the person must remain in isolation or quarantine and that exposure to the judge or the public would jeopardize the health and safety of those persons and the public health, the judge may order that a person entitled to a hearing may not appear in person and may appear only by teleconference or another means that the judge finds appropriate to allow the person to speak, to interact with witnesses, and to confer with the person's attorney.

SECTION 9. Subchapter G, Chapter 81, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 81.212 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.212. EVADING OR RESISTING APPREHENSION OR TRANSPORT; CRIMINAL PENALTY. (a) A person who is subject to a protective custody order or temporary detention order issued by a court under this subchapter commits an offense if the person resists or evades apprehension by a sheriff, constable, or other peace officer enforcing the order or resists or evades transport to an appropriate inpatient health care facility or other suitable facility under the order.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person assists a person who is subject to a protective custody order or temporary detention order issued by a court under this subchapter in resisting or evading apprehension by a sheriff, constable, or other peace officer enforcing the order or in resisting or evading transport to an appropriate inpatient health care facility or other suitable facility under the order.

(c) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor. SECTION 10. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 11. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each

H.B. No. 1690 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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