

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 3798

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to expenditures made by emergency services districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 775.073, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 775.073. EXPENDITURES [~~METHOD OF PAYMENT~~]. (a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, district [~~District~~] funds may be disbursed only by check, draft, order, or other instrument that is signed by at least a majority of the board's commissioners [~~the treasurer and countersigned by the president. If the treasurer is absent or unavailable, the assistant treasurer may sign for the treasurer. If the president is absent or unavailable, the vice president may sign for the president~~].

(b) The board by resolution may allow the district fire chief, treasurer, bookkeeper, or other district employee to sign an instrument to disburse district funds. An expenditure of more than \$2,000 may not be paid [~~from tax money~~] unless [~~a sworn itemized account covering~~] the expenditure is presented to the board and the board approves the expenditure.

(c) The board may authorize the disbursement of district funds transferred by federal reserve wire system. The board by resolution may authorize wire transfers to accounts in the district's name or accounts not in the district's name.

(d) Any property purchased or leased using district funds

1 must remain the property of the district, regardless of whether the  
2 property is used by a third party under a contract for services or  
3 otherwise, until:

4           (1) the property is sold to a third party following the  
5 procedures authorized under Section 263.003, 263.007, or 263.008,  
6 Local Government Code; or

7           (2) the property is disposed of in accordance with  
8 Subchapter J.

9           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.