

By: King of Taylor

H.B. No. 3971

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the provision of notice by the Department of Aging and
3 Disability Services to neighborhoods in which certain group homes
4 are located to protect the safety of the residents of those group
5 homes.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 161, Human Resources Code,
8 is amended by adding Section 161.089 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 161.089. NOTICE REGARDING GROUP HOMES. (a) The
10 purpose of this section is to protect the safety of residents of
11 group homes and the neighborhoods in which those group homes are
12 located.

13 (b) For purposes of this section, "group home" means:

14 (1) a residence in which residential support or
15 supervised living is provided through the Home and Community-based
16 Services waiver program; or

17 (2) a residence in which fewer than seven persons
18 reside and in which services are provided through the intermediate
19 care facility for individuals with an intellectual disability or
20 related condition program.

21 (c) In accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 3604(f)(9), the
22 commission and the department shall collaborate with advocacy
23 groups for persons with disabilities to develop, and the executive
24 commissioner shall by rule to establish, a process for the

1 department to provide notice about the presence of a group home to
2 the neighborhood in which the group home is located if:

3 (1) law enforcement officers have responded to
4 multiple emergencies at the group home;

5 (2) multiple emergencies or crises have been
6 documented at the group home;

7 (3) elopements have occurred from the group home; or

8 (4) the department has otherwise determined that
9 notice is required to protect the safety of the residents of the
10 group home or the neighborhood in which the group home is located.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.