

1-1 By: Hancock S.B. No. 772  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 25, 2015; March 2, 2015,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental  
 1-4 Relations; April 23, 2015, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 23, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

|      | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-7  | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-8  | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-9  | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-10 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-11 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-12 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-13 | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-14 | X   |     |        |     |

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to legal representation for certain emergency services  
 1-18 districts.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
 1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 775, Health and Safety  
 1-21 Code, is amended by adding Section 775.0315 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 775.0315. LEGAL REPRESENTATION. (a) This section  
 1-23 applies only to a district located wholly in a county with a  
 1-24 population of 1.8 million or more in which two or more cities with a  
 1-25 population of 350,000 or more are located.

1-26 (b) A district may employ or contract with private legal  
 1-27 counsel to represent the district on any legal matter. If the  
 1-28 district does not employ or contract with private legal counsel on a  
 1-29 legal matter, the county attorney, district attorney, or criminal  
 1-30 district attorney, as appropriate, with the duty to represent the  
 1-31 county in civil matters shall represent the district.

1-32 (c) A district that receives legal services from a county  
 1-33 attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney may  
 1-34 employ additional private legal counsel on the board's  
 1-35 determination that additional counsel is advisable. A district  
 1-36 that contracts or employs private legal counsel under Subsection  
 1-37 (b) may request and receive additional legal services from the  
 1-38 county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney,  
 1-39 as appropriate, with the duty to represent the county in civil  
 1-40 matters on the board's determination that additional counsel is  
 1-41 necessary.

1-42 (d) If the district receives legal services from a county  
 1-43 attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, the  
 1-44 district shall contribute money to be credited to the county's  
 1-45 general fund account for the county attorney, district attorney, or  
 1-46 criminal district attorney, as appropriate, in amounts sufficient  
 1-47 to pay all additional salaries and expenses incurred by that  
 1-48 officer in performing the duties required by the district.

1-49 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 1-50 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 1-51 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 1-52 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 1-53 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

1-54 \* \* \* \* \*