

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1897  
By: Perry  
Defense & Veterans' Affairs  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties note discrepancies in state law regarding the declaration of a state of disaster and the declaration of a local disaster. S.B. 1897 seeks to provide for uniformity in the requirements pertaining to each such disaster declaration.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1897 amends the Government Code to condition the authority of the presiding officer of a political subdivision's governing body to declare a local state of disaster on the presiding officer finding a disaster has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent. The bill requires an order or proclamation declaring, continuing, or terminating a local state of disaster to include a description of the nature of the disaster, a designation of the area threatened, and a description of the conditions that have brought the local state of disaster about or made possible the termination of the local state of disaster. The bill requires a political subdivision to which such an order or proclamation applies to post a copy of the order on the political subdivision's website if the political subdivision maintains a website. The bill authorizes the governor, on request of the presiding officer of a political subdivision's governing body, to waive or suspend a deadline imposed by a statute or the orders or rules of a state agency on the political subdivision if the waiver or suspension is reasonably necessary for the political subdivision to cope with a declared local state of disaster.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2017.