

By: Alvarado

S.B. No. 963

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to county contracts for emergency management consulting services; requiring a license; authorizing fees.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.1016 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.1016. COUNTY CONTRACTS FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES; LICENSE REQUIRED; FEES. (a) In this section:

(1) "Emergency manager" means a person who is licensed under this section by the licensing department to provide consulting services on emergency management issues to counties.

(2) "Licensing department" means the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

(b) Each county shall contract with an emergency manager for consulting and other services related to emergency management in the event of a disaster that affects the territory of the county. A county may comply with the requirement under this subsection by jointly contracting with one or more other counties as provided by Chapter 791 for the services of an emergency manager.

(c) A person may not provide consulting or other services related to emergency management under a contract with a county as provided by Subsection (b) unless that person holds a license issued under this section.

(d) The licensing department by rule shall establish

1 procedures for administering the licensing of emergency managers,  
2 including procedures for:

- 3 (1) applying for and issuing or denying the license;
- 4 (2) renewing or revoking the license; and
- 5 (3) taking any required examination.

6 (e) To be eligible for a license under this section, an  
7 applicant must:

- 8 (1) successfully complete the educational program  
9 established under Subsection (f)(1); and
- 10 (2) comply with the requirements of the licensing  
11 department established under Subsection (d).

12 (f) The division by rule shall establish:

- 13 (1) minimum curriculum standards for an educational  
14 program required to obtain a license issued under this section;
- 15 (2) minimum curriculum standards for continuing  
16 education programs required to renew a license issued under this  
17 section; and
- 18 (3) minimum qualifications for instructors providing  
19 instruction as part of an educational program described by  
20 Subdivision (1) or a continuing education program described by  
21 Subdivision (2).

22 (g) The division may update minimum standards or  
23 qualifications established under Subsection (f) on approval of the  
24 licensing department.

25 (h) The licensing department may set fees in amounts  
26 reasonable and necessary to cover the cost of administering the  
27 licensing program established under this section.

1           SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
2 of this Act, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation and  
3 the Texas Division of Emergency Management shall adopt rules  
4 necessary to implement Section 418.1016, Government Code, as added  
5 by this Act.

6           SECTION 3. A county shall comply with Section 418.1016(b),  
7 Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 1,  
8 2020.

9           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.