

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 1124
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 26, 2019; March 7, 2019,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human
 1-4 Services; April 16, 2019, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 16, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to establishment of a border public health response team.
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-21 SECTION 1. Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended
 1-22 by adding Subchapter X to read as follows:
 1-23 SUBCHAPTER X. BORDER PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TEAM
 1-24 Sec. 161.701. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:
 1-25 (1) "Border county" means a county adjacent to the
 1-26 international border with Mexico.
 1-27 (2) "Disaster" has the meaning assigned by Section
 1-28 418.004, Government Code. The term includes a state of disaster
 1-29 declared by:
 1-30 (A) the president of the United States under the
 1-31 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
 1-32 U.S.C. Section 5121 et seq.);
 1-33 (B) the governor under Section 418.014,
 1-34 Government Code; or
 1-35 (C) the presiding officer of the governing body
 1-36 of a political subdivision under Section 418.108, Government Code.
 1-37 (3) "Response team" means the border public health
 1-38 response team established under Section 161.702.
 1-39 (4) "Sanitarian" has the meaning assigned by Section
 1-40 1953.001, Occupations Code.
 1-41 Sec. 161.702. BORDER PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TEAM. The
 1-42 department shall establish a border public health response team to
 1-43 deploy in response to public health threats declared by the
 1-44 commissioner and declared disasters in border counties.
 1-45 Sec. 161.703. COMPOSITION OF RESPONSE TEAM. The response
 1-46 team may be composed of the following members appointed by the
 1-47 commissioner:
 1-48 (1) an epidemiologist;
 1-49 (2) a sanitarian;
 1-50 (3) a nurse;
 1-51 (4) a public health specialist; and
 1-52 (5) any other person the commissioner considers
 1-53 appropriate.
 1-54 Sec. 161.704. DEPARTMENT DUTIES. (a) The department, in
 1-55 consultation with the response team, shall, as necessary, enter
 1-56 into memoranda of understanding with other state agencies to
 1-57 develop policies, plans, and procedures to facilitate an effective
 1-58 response to a declared public health threat or disaster.
 1-59 (b) The department shall provide, or contract to provide,
 1-60 training, equipment, and support staff to the response team to
 1-61 enhance the team's response efforts, as appropriate.

2-1 Sec. 161.705. RESPONSE TEAM DUTIES. During a declared
2-2 public health threat or disaster in a border county, the response
2-3 team shall, as appropriate:

2-4 (1) assess health infrastructure and response
2-5 capabilities for the threat or disaster in a border county;

2-6 (2) develop appropriate responses for the threat or
2-7 disaster in a border county; and

2-8 (3) address language, cultural, and environmental
2-9 factors that are unique to responding to the threat or disaster in a
2-10 border county.

2-11 Sec. 161.706. FUNDING. (a) The department shall
2-12 coordinate with the commission, the office of the governor, the
2-13 federal government, and any other appropriate entity for funding to
2-14 support the response team's activities.

2-15 (b) The department may accept on behalf of the response team
2-16 a gift, grant, or donation from any source to carry out the purposes
2-17 of this subchapter.

2-18 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2019, the Department
2-19 of State Health Services shall establish the border public health
2-20 response team as required by Subchapter X, Chapter 161, Health and
2-21 Safety Code, as added by this Act.

2-22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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