

By: Slaton

H.B. No. 271

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the establishment of and a grant program for temporary  
3 confinement facilities during local disasters relating to illegal  
4 immigration or border security.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 772.0079 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 772.0079. GRANT PROGRAM FOR TEMPORARY CONFINEMENT  
9 FACILITIES DURING CERTAIN LOCAL DISASTERS. (a) In this section,  
10 "criminal justice division" means the criminal justice division  
11 established under Section 772.006.

12 (b) The criminal justice division shall establish and  
13 administer a grant program to provide financial assistance to  
14 counties to offset costs related to the establishment and operation  
15 of temporary confinement facilities authorized under Section  
16 351.0037, Local Government Code.

17 (c) The criminal justice division shall establish:

- 18 (1) eligibility criteria for grant applicants;  
19 (2) grant application procedures;  
20 (3) criteria for evaluating grant applications and  
21 awarding grants;  
22 (4) guidelines related to grant amounts; and  
23 (5) procedures for monitoring the use of a grant  
24 awarded under this section and ensuring compliance with any

1 conditions of the grant.

2 (d) The criminal justice division may use any revenue  
3 available for purposes of this section.

4 SECTION 2. Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [351](#), Local Government  
5 Code, is amended by adding Section 351.0037 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 351.0037. TEMPORARY CONFINEMENT FACILITIES DURING  
7 CERTAIN LOCAL DISASTERS. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a  
8 county for which a local disaster has been declared under Section  
9 [418.108](#), Government Code, relating to illegal immigration or border  
10 security may establish and operate a temporary facility for the  
11 confinement of persons not lawfully present in the United States  
12 who are accused of committing an offense in lieu of confining those  
13 persons in the county jail.

14 (b) The Commission on Jail Standards shall waive, to the  
15 extent the commission determines compliance is not practicable or  
16 reasonable with respect to a facility described by Subsection (a),  
17 any standards applicable to the confinement of prisoners in a  
18 facility other than a county jail under Section [351.0035](#) or other  
19 law.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
21 last day of the legislative session.