S.B. No. 877

AN ACT

relating to the inspection of municipal buildings during a declared disaster.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter G, Chapter 214, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 214.220 to read as follows:

Sec. 214.220.  INSPECTION DURING DECLARED DISASTER. (a) In an area of a municipality that is subject to a declaration of disaster by the governor under Chapter 418, Government Code, or a declaration of local disaster under that chapter, a building inspection for compliance with this subchapter or related municipal regulations may, while the declaration is in effect, be performed by a person:

(1)  other than:

(A)  the owner of the building; or

(B)  a person whose work is the subject of the inspection; and

(2)  who is:

(A)  certified to inspect buildings by the International Code Council;

(B)  employed as a building inspector by the municipality in which the building is located;

(C)  employed as a building inspector by any political subdivision, if the municipality in which the building is located has approved the person to perform inspections during a disaster; or

(D)  an engineer licensed under Chapter 1001, Occupations Code.

(b)  A municipality may not collect an additional inspection fee related to the inspection of a building performed under Subsection (a).

(c)  A person who performs an inspection under this section must:

(1)  comply with the municipality's building inspection regulations and policies; and

(2)  not later than the 30th day after the date of the inspection, provide notice to the municipality of the inspection.

(d)  The municipality may prescribe a reasonable format for the notice provided under Subsection (c)(2).

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_President of the Senate             Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 877 passed the Senate on April 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 27, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 877 passed the House, with amendments, on May 23, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, one present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_             Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_           Governor