

By: Martinez, Rodriguez

H.B. No. 1819

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the powers of board members of certain emergency services districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 775.0361 to read as follows:

Sec. 775.0361. FIRE CODE IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS. (a) Two or more districts may adopt and enforce a fire code, including fines for any violations, for the area served by the districts if the districts have established a joint response area through contracts under Section 775.031(a) that includes land in two or more counties. A fire code adopted under this section must be similar to standards adopted by a nationally recognized standards-making association.

(b) Notwithstanding Sections 775.036(b) and (b-1), a provision in a fire code adopted under Subsection (a) prevails over a provision in a fire code adopted by a county regardless of whether the provision is less stringent than the provision adopted by the county.

(c) The board of a district that adopts a fire code under this section may not enforce the fire code in the boundaries of a municipality that has adopted a fire code, except for an area that has been annexed only for limited purposes in which the municipality does not enforce a fire code.

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