

By: Paul

H.B. No. 2979

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to backup power supply requirements for certain critical
3 facilities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 771.051(a), Health and Safety Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The commission is the state's authority on emergency
8 communications. The commission shall:

9 (1) administer the implementation of statewide 9-1-1
10 service and the poison control network, including poison control
11 centers under Chapter 777;

12 (2) develop minimum performance standards for
13 equipment and operation of 9-1-1 service to be followed in
14 developing regional plans under Section 771.055, including
15 requirements that the plans provide for:

16 (A) automatic number identification by which the
17 telephone number of the caller is automatically identified at the
18 public safety answering point receiving the call; ~~and~~

19 (B) the installation and use of a backup power
20 supply for a power outage; and

21 (C) other features the commission considers
22 appropriate;

23 (3) examine and approve or disapprove regional plans
24 as provided by Section 771.056;

1 (4) recommend minimum training standards, assist in
2 training, and provide assistance in the establishment and operation
3 of 9-1-1 service;

4 (5) allocate money to prepare and operate regional
5 plans as provided by Section [771.056](#);

6 (6) develop and provide public education materials and
7 training;

8 (7) plan, implement, operate, and maintain poison
9 control center databases and assist in planning, supporting, and
10 facilitating 9-1-1 databases, as needed;

11 (8) provide grants or contracts for services that
12 enhance the effectiveness of 9-1-1 service;

13 (9) coordinate emergency communications services and
14 providers;

15 (10) make reasonable efforts to gain voluntary
16 cooperation in the commission's activities of emergency
17 communications authorities and providers outside the commission's
18 jurisdiction, including:

19 (A) making joint communications to state and
20 federal regulators; and

21 (B) arranging cooperative purchases of equipment
22 or services; and

23 (11) accept, receive, and deposit in its account in
24 the general revenue fund gifts, grants, and royalties from public
25 and private entities. Gifts, grants, and royalties may be used for
26 the purposes of the commission.

27 SECTION 2. Section [552.001](#), Local Government Code, is

1 amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

2 (e) A municipality that owns or operates a utility system to
3 provide water service shall ensure that the utility system has a
4 backup power supply for water treatment during a power outage.

5 SECTION 3. Section 13.241, Water Code, is amended by adding
6 Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

7 (d-1) The utility commission may not grant a new certificate
8 of convenience and necessity to an applicant unless the applicant
9 demonstrates that the applicant has a backup power supply for water
10 treatment during a power outage.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.