

By: McLaughlin

H.B. No. 45

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a guide on preparing for and responding to a flooding disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.0535 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.0535. FLOODING DISASTER GUIDE. (a) The division, in collaboration with the department and the emergency management council established under Section 418.013, shall develop a guide on preparing for and responding to a flood disaster for civic, volunteer, and community organizations.

(b) The guide must provide a comprehensive approach to preparing for and responding to a flooding disaster and include information on:

(1) the impact of a flooding disaster on a community and the best practices for community engagement in response to the disaster;

(2) recommendations for minimizing casualties through volunteer presence in the disaster area;

(3) the coordination of and access to assistance resources, including trauma and support services, acute support services, long-term support services, spiritual support services, and family or victim assistance;

(4) long-term recovery and community resilience;

1 (5) communication coordination, including strategies
2 to coordinate community response;

3 (6) training and preparation resources on flooding
4 disaster response; and

5 (7) preserving and restoring community cohesion and
6 public life after the disaster.

7 (c) The division shall post the guide on the division's
8 publicly available Internet website.

9 (d) The division, in collaboration with the department, may
10 seek the advice and assistance of local governments, civic
11 organizations, volunteer organizations, and community leaders in
12 the development and revision of the guide.

13 SECTION 2. Not later than April 1, 2026, the Texas Division
14 of Emergency Management shall post on the division's publicly
15 available Internet website a flooding disaster preparation and
16 response guide, as required by Section 418.0535, Government Code,
17 as added by this Act.

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