

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 224

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to youth camp emergency preparedness plans.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 141.0091 to read as follows:

Sec. 141.0091. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN. (a) A youth camp operator shall:

(1) adopt and retain on the premises of the operator's youth camp a written emergency preparedness plan specific to that camp detailing procedures for responding to an emergency event, including:

(A) a natural disaster;

(B) a lost camper;

(C) a fire;

(D) a transportation emergency;

(E) a severe illness;

(F) a severe injury;

(G) an unauthorized or unknown individual present on the camp's premises;

(H) an aquatic emergency, if applicable to the camp; and

(I) an emergency specific to the camp's location or activities; and

(2) establish procedures to notify and communicate

1 with the parents or legal guardians of each camper during an  
2 emergency.

3 (b) In developing an emergency preparedness plan under  
4 Subsection (a), a youth camp operator must:

5 (1) coordinate with appropriate local authorities and  
6 first responders in establishing the initial plan and in annually:

7 (A) updating the plan;

8 (B) submitting the initial or updated plan to the  
9 authorities; and

10 (C) conducting a walkthrough of the youth camp  
11 premises with the authorities; and

12 (2) annually submit the initial or updated plan to the  
13 department for approval in the form and manner the department  
14 prescribes.

15 (c) If the department determines a submitted emergency  
16 preparedness plan does not comply with this section, the youth camp  
17 operator shall revise and resubmit the plan not later than the 90th  
18 day after the date the operator receives notice from the department  
19 of the plan's deficiencies.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
21 last day of the legislative session.