

SENATE AMENDMENTS
2nd Printing

By: Darby, King, Meyer, DeAyala, McQueeney, H.B. No. 1
et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to youth camp and campground emergency preparedness;
3 authorizing civil and other penalties; making appropriations.

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

5 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Youth Camp Alert,
6 Mitigation, Preparedness, and Emergency Response (Youth CAMPER)
7 Act.

8 SECTION 2. Sections 141.001, 141.002, 141.0021, and
9 141.0025, Health and Safety Code, are designated as Subchapter A,
10 Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, and a heading is added to
11 Subchapter A to read as follows:

12 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

13 SECTION 3. Section 141.002, Health and Safety Code, is
14 amended by adding Subdivision (4-a) to read as follows:

15 (4-a) "Resident youth camp operator" means a person
16 who owns, operates, controls, or supervises a resident youth camp,
17 regardless of profit.

18 SECTION 4. Sections 141.003, 141.0035, 141.004, 141.005,
19 141.0051, 141.006, 141.007, 141.008, 141.0085, 141.009, 141.0095,
20 141.010, 141.011, 141.0111, 141.0112, 141.012, 141.013, 141.014,
21 141.015, 141.016, 141.017, 141.018, 141.019, and 141.020, Health
22 and Safety Code, are designated as Subchapter B, Chapter 141,
23 Health and Safety Code, and a heading is added to Subchapter B to
24 read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. LICENSING AND REGULATION OF YOUTH CAMPS

SECTION 5. Subchapter B, Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 141.0031, 141.0052, and 141.0053 to read as follows:

Sec. 141.0031. PROHIBITED LICENSURE OF YOUTH CAMP WITHIN FLOODPLAIN. (a) In this section:

(1) "Cabin" means a structure used to provide sleeping quarters to campers.

(2) "Floodplain" means an area within a 100-year floodplain identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. Section 4001 et seq.).

(b) The department may not issue or renew a youth camp license for a youth camp that operates one or more cabins located within a floodplain.

Sec. 141.0052. REQUIRED NOTICE FOR MODIFICATION OF RESIDENT YOUTH CAMP PROPERTY, STRUCTURES, OR ACTIVITIES. (a) A resident youth camp operator shall notify the department, in the form and manner prescribed by the department, of any modification to:

- (1) the resident youth camp's property;
- (2) a structure located on the resident youth camp's property; or
- (3) any resident youth camp activities.

(b) On receiving notification of a modification described by Subsection (a), the department may require the resident youth camp operator to update the camp's emergency plan under Section 141.053.

1 Sec. 141.0053. SAFE ACCESS TO YOUTH CAMPS. (a) In this
2 section, "low-water crossing" means a bridge or roadway that:

3 (1) is passable when dry;
4 (2) is designed to flood during heavy rainfall; and
5 (3) poses a danger to passage during heavy rainfall or
6 flash flood events.

7 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the department may
8 not issue or renew a youth camp license if the camp:

9 (1) is located wholly or partly within a 100-year
10 floodplain as determined by the most recent maps published by the
11 Federal Emergency Management Agency; and

12 (2) does not have safe ingress or egress by a motor
13 vehicle without crossing a road's low-water crossing.

14 (c) The department may grant a waiver from the prohibition
15 of Subsection (b) to a youth camp that:

16 (1) was in operation before December 1, 2025; and
17 (2) includes in the camp's emergency plan under
18 Section 141.053 strategies and methods the youth camp will use to
19 mitigate the risks associated with low-water crossings.

20 (d) The strategies and methods for mitigating risks
21 associated with low-water crossings described by Subsection (c)(2)
22 may include:

23 (1) regular maintenance and repair or design changes
24 to improve water drainage at the camp;

25 (2) structural bridge or roadway changes, including
26 elevating low-water crossings; and

27 (3) post-construction flood mitigation strategies,

1 including the installment at low-water crossings of automated gates
2 or gauges.

3 SECTION 6. Section 141.008, Health and Safety Code, is
4 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 (c) The department shall review the camper to counselor
6 ratios for overnight stays at youth camps and provide to the
7 executive commissioner recommendations regarding minimum camper to
8 counselor ratios. The executive commissioner by rule shall
9 establish minimum camper to counselor ratios for overnight stays at
10 youth camps.

11 SECTION 7. Section 141.009, Health and Safety Code, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Sec. 141.009. STANDARDS. (a) The executive commissioner
14 by rule shall establish health and safety standards for youth
15 camps. The standards may relate to:

16 (1) adequate and proper supervision at all times of
17 camp activities;

18 (2) qualifications for directors, supervisors, and
19 staff and sufficient numbers of those persons;

20 (3) proper safeguards for sanitation and public
21 health;

22 (4) adequate medical services for personal health and
23 first aid;

24 (5) proper procedures for food preparation, handling,
25 and mass feeding;

26 (6) healthful and sufficient water supply;

27 (7) proper waste disposal;

- 1 (8) proper water safety procedures for swimming pools,
2 lakes, and waterways;
- 3 (9) safe boating equipment;
- 4 (10) proper maintenance and safe use of motor
5 vehicles;
- 6 (11) safe buildings and physical facilities;
- 7 (12) proper fire precautions;
- 8 (13) safe and proper recreational and other equipment;
- 9 (14) proper regard for density and use of the
10 premises; and
- 11 (15) records of criminal convictions of camp
12 personnel.

13 (b) In establishing health and safety standards under
14 Subsection (a), the executive commissioner by rule shall require a
15 youth camp to:

16 (1) post on or near all interior doors of each camp
17 building that provides overnight accommodations to campers, at a
18 height easily visible to campers and camp staff, an emergency
19 evacuation and relocation map identifying:

20 (A) the shortest and easiest route for campers
21 and camp staff from the building to a safe meeting point that
22 provides shelter in an emergency;

23 (B) an alternative route from the building to the
24 meeting point in the event the route described by Paragraph (A) is
25 unavailable due to the emergency; and

26 (C) the location of emergency equipment; and

27 (2) provide instruction to all campers and camp staff

before the first overnight stay of a camping session on:

(A) the routes to the camp's safe meeting point;

(B) the location of the camp's emergency equipment;

(C) the location of the camp's emergency evacuation and relocation maps; and

(D) implementation and use of the emergency evacuation and relocation maps.

SECTION 8. Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter C to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C. RESIDENT YOUTH CAMP SAFETY

Sec. 141.051. SHORT TITLE. This subchapter may be cited as the Youth Camp Alert, Mitigation, Preparedness, and Emergency Response (Youth CAMPER) Act.

Sec. 141.052. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Emergency plan" means the written emergency plan required under Section 141.053.

(2) "Team" means the Resident Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team established under Section 141.057.

Sec. 141.053. EMERGENCY PLAN FOR RESIDENT YOUTH CAMP; STANDARDS; REQUIRED TRAINING; NOTIFICATION. (a) For each resident youth camp, the resident youth camp operator shall develop and implement a written emergency plan with procedures for responding to an emergency event, including:

(1) a natural disaster;

(2) a lost camper;

(3) a fire;

1 (4) a transportation emergency;
2 (5) a severe illness;
3 (6) an epidemic;
4 (7) a severe injury;
5 (8) a serious accident;
6 (9) a fatality;
7 (10) an unauthorized or unknown individual present on
8 the camp's premises;
9 (11) an aquatic emergency, if applicable; and
10 (12) any other emergency event prescribed by executive
11 commissioner rule.

12 (b) The resident youth camp operator shall designate an
13 emergency preparedness supervisor for the resident youth camp and
14 include the designation in the camp's emergency plan.

15 (c) The resident youth camp operator shall:

16 (1) annually review the emergency plan and update the
17 plan as necessary;

18 (2) annually submit the emergency plan to the
19 department in the form and manner the department prescribes;

20 (3) make the emergency plan approved by the department
21 available to each camper and provide the plan to each parent or
22 legal guardian of the camper;

23 (4) provide to campers at the beginning of each camp
24 session:

25 (A) developmentally appropriate instruction
26 regarding the actions the camper is to perform during an emergency
27 event; and

1 (B) the name and contact information of the
2 camp's designated emergency preparedness supervisor;

3 (5) provide to the county or municipality in which the
4 camp is primarily located and, if applicable, to the emergency
5 services district that serves the county or municipality in which
6 the camp is primarily located:

7 (A) a copy of the emergency plan; and

8 (B) a list of the campers, staff members, and
9 volunteers occupying the camp during a camp session on or before the
10 first day of the session;

11 (6) before the beginning of each camp session:

12 (A) provide to each camp staff member and
13 volunteer a copy of the camp's emergency plan and comprehensive
14 training on the emergency plan that addresses each procedure
15 included in the emergency plan as prescribed by executive
16 commissioner rule;

17 (B) instruct each camp staff member and volunteer
18 on the procedures to follow during an emergency event; and

19 (C) maintain in the camp's on-site
20 administrative office records documenting the successful
21 completion by each camp staff member and volunteer of the training
22 required by this subdivision; and

23 (7) for a resident youth camp located wholly or partly
24 within a floodplain, before the beginning of each camp session:

25 (A) provide written notice to the parent or legal
26 guardian of each camper of the camp's location within the
27 floodplain and the risk of flooding at the camp; and

1 (B) ensure the parent or legal guardian signs and
2 submits to the operator a statement acknowledging receipt of the
3 notice.

4 (d) The emergency plan adopted under this section and the
5 list of campers, staff members, and volunteers required to be
6 provided under Subsection (c)(5) are confidential and not subject
7 to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

8 (e) The emergency plan developed under this section must
9 comply with the minimum standards established by executive
10 commissioner rule under Section 141.055 and must include specific
11 procedures for campers, staff members, and volunteers of the
12 resident youth camp to follow in an emergency event, including:

13 (1) sheltering in or evacuating from camp buildings
14 and the camp;

15 (2) controlling vehicular traffic on the camp's
16 premises; and

17 (3) notifying and communicating with the following
18 entities during the emergency event, as necessary:

19 (A) a local emergency medical services provider;

20 (B) the municipal or volunteer fire department;

21 (C) the county sheriff's office or municipal
22 police department;

23 (D) the office of emergency management of the
24 county or municipality in which the resident youth camp is
25 primarily located; and

26 (E) the resident youth camp's administrative and
27 medical services staff.

1 (f) The resident youth camp operator may coordinate with the
2 office of emergency management of the county or municipality in
3 which the resident youth camp is primarily located in developing
4 the emergency plan under this section.

5 Sec. 141.054. DEPARTMENT REJECTION OF EMERGENCY PLAN;
6 CORRECTIVE ACTION. (a) If the department determines a resident
7 youth camp's submitted emergency plan does not meet the minimum
8 standards prescribed by executive commissioner rule under Section
9 141.055, the resident youth camp operator shall, in the form and
10 manner prescribed by executive commissioner rule:

11 (1) not later than the 10th day after the date the
12 operator receives notice of the department's rejection, provide to
13 the department a corrective action plan that details the actions
14 the operator intends to perform to address each deficiency
15 specified by the department in the camp's emergency plan; and

16 (2) not later than the 30th day after the date the
17 operator receives notice of the department's rejection, revise and
18 resubmit the camp's emergency plan.

19 (b) The department may provide recommendations for the
20 resident youth camp operator to implement in the operator's annual
21 update to the emergency plan.

22 Sec. 141.055. ADOPTION OF MINIMUM STANDARDS; RULES. The
23 executive commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this
24 subchapter. The rules must specify:

25 (1) the information required in an emergency plan,
26 including:

27 (A) procedures for addressing an emergency event

1 described by Section 141.053(a); and

2 (B) additional measures or alterations to camp
3 operations to be implemented during heightened emergency events, as
4 determined by special weather or hazard announcements;

5 (2) the minimum number of training hours required
6 under Section 141.053(c)(6);

7 (3) the form and manner for submitting an emergency
8 plan to the department; and

9 (4) the department's procedures for:

10 (A) determining whether an emergency plan meets
11 the minimum standards prescribed by executive commissioner rule;
12 and

13 (B) additional inspections required under
14 Section 141.056 to ensure compliance with the approved emergency
15 plan.

16 Sec. 141.056. ADDITIONAL INSPECTION REQUIRED; PARENTAL
17 COMPLAINTS. (a) A resident youth camp operator shall include in a
18 prominent place on the camp's publicly accessible Internet website
19 a clearly marked link to the youth camp program web page on the
20 department's Internet website for campers, parents, and camp staff
21 and volunteers to use to report the camp's noncompliance with this
22 subchapter.

23 (b) The department shall investigate each complaint filed
24 with the department for a resident youth camp to ensure the resident
25 youth camp operator is properly implementing the approved emergency
26 plan and the camp complies with this subchapter.

27 (c) A department investigation under this section must

1 include an inspection to ensure the resident youth camp's
2 compliance with this subchapter. The inspection shall be performed
3 in the same manner as an inspection under Section 141.007.

4 Sec. 141.057. RESIDENT YOUTH CAMP SAFETY MULTIDISCIPLINARY
5 TEAM. (a) The Resident Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team is
6 created within the department and is composed of at least one
7 representative from:

- 8 (1) the department;
9 (2) the Texas Division of Emergency Management;
10 (3) the Texas Department of Insurance State Fire
11 Marshal's Office;
12 (4) the Parks and Wildlife Department;
13 (5) the Texas Water Development Board;
14 (6) the Texas A&M Forest Service; and
15 (7) the Department of Public Safety.

16 (b) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall
17 serve as the chair of the team.

18 (c) The team shall meet regularly to develop proposed
19 minimum standards for resident youth camps under this subchapter.
20 The team shall present the proposed minimum standards to the
21 executive commissioner as recommendations for the minimum
22 standards adopted under Section 141.055.

23 Sec. 141.058. CIVIL PENALTY. (a) The attorney general may
24 bring an action to impose a civil penalty against a resident youth
25 camp operator who violates this subchapter or a rule adopted under
26 this subchapter in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each
27 violation.

1 (b) Each day a violation continues is considered a separate
2 violation for purposes of imposing a civil penalty under this
3 section.

4 (c) The attorney general may recover reasonable expenses
5 incurred in bringing an action under this section, including court
6 costs, reasonable attorney's fees, investigative costs, witness
7 fees, and deposition costs.

8 (d) A civil penalty collected under this section must be
9 remitted to the department to offset department costs in
10 administering this subchapter.

11 Sec. 141.059. DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE FOR
12 NONCOMPLIANCE. (a) The department may not issue a license for a
13 resident youth camp under Section 141.004 or renew a license for a
14 resident youth camp under Section 141.005 if the resident youth
15 camp operator is not in compliance with this subchapter or a rule
16 adopted under this chapter.

17 (b) The department shall suspend a resident youth camp
18 license issued by the department if the camp or resident youth camp
19 operator is in violation of this subchapter. The department may
20 reinstate the license only on or after the date the department
21 determines the resident youth camp and the resident youth camp
22 operator are in compliance with this subchapter.

23 Sec. 141.060. WAIVER NOT PERMITTED. Notwithstanding any
24 other law, the department may not grant a waiver to a resident youth
25 camp operator to exempt the operator from the requirements of this
26 subchapter or penalties imposed under this subchapter.

27 Sec. 141.061. CONFLICT OF LAWS. In the event of a conflict

1 between this subchapter and another provision of law relating to
2 licensing and regulation of resident youth camps, this subchapter
3 controls.

4 SECTION 9. Not later than March 1, 2026, the executive
5 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
6 adopt the rules required by Subchapter C, Chapter 141, Health and
7 Safety Code, as added by this Act.

8 SECTION 10. Notwithstanding Subchapter C, Chapter 141,
9 Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, a resident youth camp
10 operator is not required to submit an emergency plan to the
11 Department of State Health Services until May 1, 2026.

12 SECTION 11. As soon as practicable after the effective date
13 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
14 Services Commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement
15 Section 141.009, Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act.

16 SECTION 12. (a) The amount of \$2,594,265 is appropriated
17 from the economic stabilization fund for use during the two-year
18 period beginning on the effective date of this Act, and the amount
19 of \$2,484,726 is appropriated from the general revenue fund for use
20 during the state fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, to the
21 Department of State Health Services to implement the provisions of
22 this legislation. The department shall adjust the amount the
23 department sets for license fees under Section 141.0035, Health and
24 Safety Code, as necessary to recover the costs of the
25 appropriations made under this subsection.

26 (b) During the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1,
27 2025, the Department of State Health Services, in addition to the

capital budget authority other law grants to the department during that period, may use \$500,000 in capital budget authority for the appropriations made by Subsection (a) of this section, if any.

(c) During the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2025, the Department of State Health Services, in addition to the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees other law authorizes the department to employ during that period, may employ 16.0 FTE employees out of money appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section, if any.

SECTION 13. (a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (c) of this section, 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 on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

(b) Subject to Subsection (c) of this section, Section 12 of this Act, making an appropriation to the Department of State Health Services, takes effect on the later of:

(1) the earliest date the section may take effect under Section 14, Article IV, Texas Constitution; or

(2) September 1, 2025.

(c) Section 12 of this Act takes effect only if this Act receives a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to each house.

ADOPTED

SEP 03 2025

Latey Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

By: *Chad Perry*

H.B. No. 1

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1:

By: *Chad Perry*

C.S. H.B. No. 1

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to youth camp emergency plans and preparedness;
3 authorizing penalties.

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

5 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Youth Camp Alert,
6 Mitigation, Preparedness, and Emergency Response (Youth CAMPER)
7 Act.

8 SECTION 2. Section 141.002, Health and Safety Code, is
9 amended by amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivisions (1-a),
10 (2-a), (2-b), and (2-c) to read as follows:

11 (1) "Cabin" means a structure used to provide
12 temporary sleeping quarters for campers.

13 (1-a) "Camper" means a minor who is attending a youth
14 camp on a day care or boarding basis.

15 (2-a) "Floodplain" has the meaning assigned by Section
16 762.001.

17 (2-b) "Floodway" means an area identified on the most
18 recent flood hazard map published by the Federal Emergency
19 Management Agency under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968
20 (42 U.S.C. Section 4001 et seq.) as a regulatory floodway.

21 (2-c) "Governmental entity" means this state or a
22 state agency or political subdivision of this state.

23 SECTION 3. Section 141.005(a), Health and Safety Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 (a) A person holding a license issued under this chapter
2 must:

3 (1) renew the license annually by submitting a renewal
4 application on a date determined by department rule on a form
5 provided by the department; and

6 (2) submit a renewal application not later than the
7 30th day after the date the person:

8 (A) alters the boundaries of a youth camp
9 operated by the person;

10 (B) completes construction of one or more new
11 cabins located on the premises of the camp; or

12 (C) completes any renovation to one or more
13 existing cabins located on the premises of the camp that:

14 (i) increases or decreases the number of
15 beds in an affected cabin; or

16 (ii) alters the method of ingress or egress
17 to an affected cabin.

18 SECTION 4. Section 141.008, Health and Safety Code, is
19 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

20 (c) The department shall review the camper to counselor
21 ratios for overnight stays at youth camps and provide to the
22 executive commissioner recommendations regarding minimum camper to
23 counselor ratios. The executive commissioner by rule shall
24 establish minimum camper to counselor ratios for overnight stays at
25 youth camps.

26 SECTION 5. Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, is amended
27 by adding Sections 141.0071, 141.0081, 141.0091, 141.0092,

1 141.0093, and 141.0094 to read as follows:

2 Sec. 141.0071. ADDITIONAL INSPECTION REQUIRED; PARENTAL
3 COMPLAINTS. (a) A youth camp operator shall include in a prominent
4 place on the youth camp's publicly accessible Internet website a
5 clearly marked link to the youth camp program web page on the
6 department's Internet website for campers, parents, and camp staff
7 and volunteers to use to report the camp's noncompliance with this
8 chapter.

9 (b) The department shall investigate each complaint filed
10 with the department for a youth camp to ensure the youth camp
11 operator is properly implementing the camp's approved emergency
12 plan submitted as required under Section 141.0091 and the camp
13 complies with this chapter.

14 (c) A department investigation under this section must
15 include an inspection to ensure the youth camp's compliance with
16 this chapter. The inspection shall be performed in the same manner
17 as an inspection under Section 141.007.

18 Sec. 141.0081. YOUTH CAMP SAFETY MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM.

19 (a) The Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team is created within
20 the department and is composed of at least one representative from:

- 21 (1) the department;
22 (2) the Texas Division of Emergency Management;
23 (3) the Texas Department of Insurance State Fire
24 Marshal's Office;
25 (4) the Parks and Wildlife Department;
26 (5) the Texas Water Development Board;
27 (6) the Texas A&M Forest Service; and

1 (7) the Department of Public Safety.

2 (b) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall
3 serve as the chair of the team.

4 (c) The team shall meet regularly to develop proposed
5 minimum standards for youth camps under this chapter. The team
6 shall present the proposed minimum standards to the executive
7 commissioner as recommendations for adoption.

8 Sec. 141.0091. ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS;
9 EMERGENCY PLAN. (a) As part of the health and safety standards
10 established under Section 141.009, the executive commissioner by
11 rule shall make applicable to a youth camp the requirements of
12 Chapter 762 in the same manner as those requirements apply to a
13 campground under that chapter.

14 (b) The executive commissioner by rule shall require a youth
15 camp operator in the emergency plan the operator develops for a
16 youth camp to:

17 (1) specify muster zones for campers and camp staff to
18 gather in an emergency event that requires evacuation from any
19 location within the premises of the camp;

20 (2) establish procedures for responding to an
21 emergency event, other than an event addressed by Section 762.002,
22 including:

23 (A) a lost camper;

24 (B) a fire on the premises of the camp;

25 (C) a severe injury, severe illness, serious
26 accident, or death of one or more campers, visitors, camp staff, or
27 camp volunteers that occurs:

1 (i) on camp premises; or
2 (ii) while under the supervision of camp
3 staff;
4 (D) an aquatic emergency if the camp borders a
5 watercourse, lake, pond, or any other body of water;
6 (E) an epidemic;
7 (F) an unauthorized or unknown individual
8 present on the camp's premises;
9 (G) a transportation emergency; and
10 (H) any other natural disaster or emergency event
11 required under department rules;
12 (3) establish procedures to identify and account for
13 each camper affected by the emergency event;
14 (4) establish procedures to notify and communicate
15 with:
16 (A) local emergency management services,
17 including the emergency management director or coordinator
18 designated under Section 418.1015, Government Code, by the
19 political subdivision within which the camp is located;
20 (B) camp administrative and medical services
21 staff; and
22 (C) the parents or legal guardians of each camper
23 identified under Subdivision (3); and
24 (5) designate a camp emergency preparedness
25 coordinator.
26 (c) The executive commissioner by rule shall require a youth
27 camp operator at each youth camp the operator operates to:

1 (1) maintain an operable radio capable of providing
2 real-time weather alerts issued by the National Weather Service or
3 a similar professional weather service at the camp;

4 (2) install and maintain at the camp an emergency
5 warning system that:

6 (A) is capable of alerting all campers and camp
7 occupants of an emergency; and

8 (B) includes a public address system operable
9 without reliance on an Internet connection;

10 (3) monitor safety alerts issued:

11 (A) by the National Weather Service or a similar
12 professional weather service; and

13 (B) by local river authorities, if applicable to
14 the camp, or through other local emergency notification systems;
15 and

16 (4) certify the operator's compliance with this
17 subsection.

18 (d) In developing a youth camp's emergency plan, a youth
19 camp operator must annually submit the initial or updated plan to
20 the department for approval in the form and manner the department
21 prescribes.

22 (e) If the department determines a youth camp's submitted
23 emergency plan does not meet the minimum standards prescribed by
24 department rules, the youth camp operator shall revise and resubmit
25 the plan not later than the 45th day after the date the operator
26 receives notice from the department of the plan's deficiencies.

27 (f) A youth camp operator shall include any updated youth

1 camp emergency plan as an attachment to each application to renew
2 the operator's license under Section 141.005.

3 (g) Notwithstanding Section 762.002(c), not later than the
4 10th business day following the date the department approves a
5 youth camp's emergency plan or, if the department determines the
6 plan is deficient under Subsection (e), the camp's revised
7 emergency plan, the operator shall provide a copy of the plan to:

8 (1) for a camp located in a municipality, the
9 emergency management director or coordinator designated under
10 Section 418.1015, Government Code, for the municipality; and

11 (2) the emergency management director or coordinator
12 designated under Section 418.1015, Government Code, for the county.

13 (h) In developing a youth camp's emergency plan, a youth
14 camp operator may consult with an emergency management director or
15 coordinator described by Subsection (g).

16 (i) The department shall store in a digital database each
17 emergency plan submitted to the department under this section or
18 Section 762.002 and provide access to that database to:

19 (1) the Texas Division of Emergency Management; and

20 (2) each member of the Youth Camp Safety
21 Multidisciplinary Team created under Section 141.0081.

22 (j) A youth camp operator shall:

23 (1) provide the most recent version of a youth camp's
24 emergency plan submitted under this section to the parent or legal
25 guardian of:

26 (A) a camper who is participating in a camp
27 session; or

1 (B) a prospective camper who is registered to
2 participate in a future camp session;

3 (2) notify the parent or legal guardian of a camper or
4 prospective camper described by Subdivision (1) if any area of the
5 camp is located within a floodplain; and

6 (3) ensure the parent or legal guardian signs and
7 submits to the operator a statement acknowledging receipt of the
8 notice required under Subdivision (2).

9 (k) Not more than 48 hours after each youth camp session
10 begins, the youth camp operator or a youth camp staff member shall
11 conduct a mandatory safety orientation that:

12 (1) notifies each camper of the camp's boundaries and
13 any hazards present on the camp premises;

14 (2) instructs each camper on behavioral expectations
15 in an emergency event; and

16 (3) provides each camper developmentally appropriate
17 instruction on the appropriate actions and procedures to follow in
18 an emergency event, in accordance with the camp's emergency plan
19 required under this section and Section 762.002.

20 (1) At least once a year, a youth camp operator shall:

21 (1) provide each youth camp staff member and volunteer
22 with a copy of the camp's most recent emergency plan;

23 (2) ensure each staff member and volunteer
24 successfully completes training on the camp's emergency plan in
25 compliance with any minimum standards and required hours
26 established by department rule;

27 (3) instruct each staff member and volunteer on the

proper procedures to follow in an emergency event under the plan;
and

(4) maintain written records documenting each staff member's and volunteer's successful completion of the training required under this subsection.

(m) A youth camp operator shall:

(1) conspicuously post in each cabin on the youth camp premises the proper evacuation route described in the youth camp's emergency plan; and

(2) ensure each evacuation route on the camp premises is illuminated at night.

(n) Notwithstanding Section 141.0025, the department shall not grant a waiver from a requirement prescribed under this section or Chapter 762.

(o) An emergency plan submitted to, received by, or accessed by the department, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, an emergency management director or coordinator designated under Section 418.1015, Government Code, or any other governmental entity under this section is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

Sec. 141.0092. REDUNDANT INTERNET CONNECTIONS REQUIRED.

(a) In this section, "broadband service" has the meaning assigned by Section 490I.0101, Government Code.

(b) A youth camp operator shall provide and maintain for a youth camp:

(1) Internet services through a broadband service that connects to the Internet using end-to-end fiber optic facilities;

1 and

2 (2) a secondary Internet connection through a
3 broadband service distinct from the service described under
4 Subdivision (1).

5 Sec. 141.0093. REQUIRED NOTICE FOR MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN
6 YOUTH CAMP STRUCTURES OR ACTIVITY LOCATIONS. (a) A youth camp
7 operator shall notify the department, in the form and manner
8 prescribed by the department, of any modification to:

9 (1) a structure intended to facilitate youth camp
10 activities; or

11 (2) the location of a camp activity on the camp's
12 premises.

13 (b) On receiving notification of a modification described
14 by Subsection (a), the department may require the youth camp
15 operator to update the youth camp's emergency plan under Section
16 141.0091.

17 Sec. 141.0094. DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE FOR
18 NONCOMPLIANCE. (a) The department shall not issue a license or
19 renew a license for a youth camp under this chapter if the youth
20 camp operator is not in compliance with Sections 141.0091 and
21 141.0092 or a rule adopted under those sections.

22 (b) The department shall suspend a youth camp license issued
23 by the department if the camp or youth camp operator is in violation
24 of Section 141.0091 or 141.0092. The department may reinstate the
25 license only on or after the date the department determines the camp
26 and the operator are in compliance with Sections 141.0091 and
27 141.0092.

1 SECTION 6. Notwithstanding Section 141.0081, Health and
2 Safety Code, as added by this Act, the Youth Camp Safety
3 Multidisciplinary Team is not required to hold its first meeting
4 until September 1, 2026.

5 SECTION 7. Not later than January 1, 2026, the executive
6 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
7 adopt the rules required by Section 141.0091, Health and Safety
8 Code, as added by this Act.

9 SECTION 8. Notwithstanding Section 141.0091, Health and
10 Safety Code, as added by this Act, a youth camp operator is not
11 required to submit a youth camp emergency plan to the Department of
12 State Health Services until April 1, 2026.

13 SECTION 9. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
18 legislative session.

ADOPTED

SEP 03 2025

Lately Law
Secretary of the Senate

Chad Ferry

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

BY: _____

1 Amend C.S.H.B. No. 1 (senate committee report) in SECTION 5
2 of the bill, by striking added Section 141.0091(c), Health and
3 Safety Code, and substituting the following:

4 (c) The executive commissioner by rule shall require a youth
5 camp operator to, at each youth camp the operator operates:

6 (1) maintain an operable radio capable of providing
7 real-time weather alerts issued by the National Weather Service or
8 a similar professional weather service at the camp;

9 (2) install and maintain at the camp an emergency
10 warning system that:

11 (A) is capable of alerting all campers and camp
12 occupants of an emergency; and

13 (B) includes a public address system operable
14 without reliance on an Internet connection;

15 (3) monitor safety alerts issued:

16 (A) by the National Weather Service or a similar
17 professional weather service; and

18 (B) by local river authorities, if applicable to
19 the camp, or through other local emergency notification systems;
20 and

21 (4) certify the operator's compliance with this
22 subsection.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATURE 2nd CALLED SESSION 2025

September 3, 2025

TO: Honorable Dustin Burrows, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1 by Darby (Relating to youth camp emergency plans and preparedness; authorizing penalties.), As Passed 2nd House

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1, As Passed 2nd House: a negative impact of (\$5,431,146) through the biennium ending August 31, 2027.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to <i>General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2026	(\$2,882,320)
2027	(\$2,548,826)
2028	(\$2,548,826)
2029	(\$2,548,826)
2030	(\$2,548,826)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	<i>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2025</i>
2026	(\$2,882,320)	16.0
2027	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2028	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2029	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2030	(\$2,548,826)	16.0

Fiscal Analysis

Among other provisions, the bill would expand youth camp health and safety standards set by rule of the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), including the required development of an emergency plan by a youth camp operator that would be subject to approval by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). A resident youth camp operator would not be required to submit the plan to DSHS until April 1, 2026. The bill would require DSHS to investigate each parental complaint filed with the agency for a youth camp to ensure the youth camp operator is properly implementing the camp's emergency plan and complies with provisions concerning youth camp safety. The bill would require such an investigation to include an inspection.

The bill would create the Resident Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team within DSHS to develop proposed minimum standards for resident youth camps and would require DSHS to store in a digital database each youth camp emergency plan and provide access to that database to the Texas Division of Emergency Management and each member of the Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team.

The bill would also require youth camp operators to provide and maintain redundant internet connections and to notify DSHS of any modification of certain youth camp structures or activity locations. The bill would also provide for the denial or suspension of a youth camp license for noncompliance with the bill's expanded youth camp health and safety standards and the redundant internet connections requirement.

Methodology

According to DSHS, the agency would need 16.0 additional full-time-equivalent (FTE) positions to implement the provisions of the bill: 10.0 Sanitarian IIs, 1.0 Sanitarian IV, and 5.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs. The agency reports that all additional FTEs would require standard office setups and that the 10.0 Sanitarrians IIs would need a dedicated vehicle at an estimated cost of \$50,000 each and \$8,000 travel budgets to support travel related to youth camp inspections. 4.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs would also need \$8,000 travel budgets. Total costs excluding those related to technology would be \$2,617,357 in fiscal year 2026 and \$2,536,910 each year thereafter.

It is assumed that costs to HHSC would be insignificant.

Technology

According to DSHS, the agency would use existing technology to house and share emergency plans but would need additional funding for configuration, testing, deployment, storage, and software licensing costs, as well as for software licenses for the additional FTEs. DSHS estimates technology costs of \$264,963 in fiscal year 2026 and \$11,916 each fiscal year thereafter.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of
LBB Staff: JMc, CMA, FV, SD, NV

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATURE 2nd CALLED SESSION 2025

September 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Disaster Preparedness & Flooding, Select

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1** by Darby (relating to youth camp emergency plans and preparedness; authorizing penalties.),
Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1, Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted: a negative impact of (\$5,431,146) through the biennium ending August 31, 2027.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to <i>General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2026	(\$2,882,320)
2027	(\$2,548,826)
2028	(\$2,548,826)
2029	(\$2,548,826)
2030	(\$2,548,826)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	<i>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2025</i>
2026	(\$2,882,320)	16.0
2027	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2028	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2029	(\$2,548,826)	16.0
2030	(\$2,548,826)	16.0

Fiscal Analysis

Among other provisions, the bill would expand youth camp health and safety standards set by rule of the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), including the required development of an emergency plan by a youth camp operator that would be subject to approval by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). A resident youth camp operator would not be required to submit the plan to DSHS until April 1, 2026. The bill would require DSHS to investigate each parental complaint filed with the agency for a youth camp to ensure the youth camp operator is properly implementing the camp's emergency plan and complies with provisions concerning youth camp safety. The bill would require such an investigation to include an inspection.

The bill would create the Resident Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team within DSHS to develop proposed minimum standards for resident youth camps and would require DSHS to store in a digital database each youth camp emergency plan and provide access to that database to the Texas Division of Emergency Management and each member of the Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team.

The bill would also require youth camp operators to provide and maintain redundant internet connections and to notify DSHS of any modification of certain youth camp structures or activity locations. The bill would also provide for the denial or suspension of a youth camp license for noncompliance with the bill's expanded youth camp health and safety standards and the redundant internet connections requirement.

Methodology

According to DSHS, the agency would need 16.0 additional full-time-equivalent (FTE) positions to implement the provisions of the bill: 10.0 Sanitarian IIs, 1.0 Sanitarian IV, and 5.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs. The agency reports that all additional FTEs would require standard office setups and that the 10.0 Sanitarians IIs would need a dedicated vehicle at an estimated cost of \$50,000 each and \$8,000 travel budgets to support travel related to youth camp inspections. 4.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs would also need \$8,000 travel budgets. Total costs excluding those related to technology would be \$2,617,357 in fiscal year 2026 and \$2,536,910 each year thereafter.

It is assumed that costs to HHSC would be insignificant.

Technology

According to DSHS, the agency would use existing technology to house and share emergency plans but would need additional funding for configuration, testing, deployment, storage, and software licensing costs, as well as for software licenses for the additional FTEs. DSHS estimates technology costs of \$264,963 in fiscal year 2026 and \$11,916 each fiscal year thereafter.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of
LBB Staff: JMc, FV, CMA, SD, NV

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATURE 2nd CALLED SESSION 2025

August 26, 2025

TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Disaster Preparedness & Flooding, Select

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1** by Darby (Relating to youth camp and campground emergency preparedness; authorizing civil and other penalties; making appropriations.), **As Engrossed**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1, As Engrossed: a positive impact of \$2,594,265 through the biennium ending August 31, 2027.

Appropriations:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Appropriation out of <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Appropriation out of <i>Economic Stabilization Fund</i> 599
2026	\$0	\$2,594,265
2027	\$2,484,726	\$0

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to <i>General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2026	\$2,594,265
2027	\$0
2028	\$0
2029	\$0
2030	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>Economic Stabilization Fund</i> 599	<i>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2025</i>
2026	\$0	\$2,594,265	(\$2,594,265)	16.0
2027	(\$2,484,726)	\$2,484,726	\$0	16.0
2028	(\$2,484,726)	\$2,484,726	\$0	16.0
2029	(\$2,484,726)	\$2,484,726	\$0	16.0
2030	(\$2,484,726)	\$2,484,726	\$0	16.0

Fiscal Analysis

Among other provisions, the bill would prohibit the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) from issuing or renewing a youth camp license for a youth camp that operates one or more cabins located within a floodplain

as defined by the bill. The bill would provide for the required notice to DSHS for modification of resident youth camp property, structures, or activities and would require safe access to youth camps. The bill would expand youth camp health and safety standards set by rule of the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

The bill would require youth camps to develop and implement written emergency plans that meet minimum standards set by HHSC executive commissioner rule and would require those plans to be submitted to DSHS for review and approval. A resident youth camp operator would not be required to submit the plan to DSHS until May 1, 2026. The bill would require DSHS to investigate each parental complaint of a camp's noncompliance with provisions concerning youth camp safety that is filed with the agency and would require such an investigation to include an inspection.

The bill would create the Resident Youth Camp Safety Multidisciplinary Team within DSHS to develop proposed minimum standards for resident youth camps and would authorize the Attorney General to impose a civil penalty against a resident youth camp operator who violates the bill's youth camp safety provisions or a related rule in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation. The civil penalty would be remitted to DSHS to offset agency administrative costs. The bill would also authorize the Attorney General to recover reasonable expenses incurred in bringing such an action.

Finally, the bill would appropriate the amount of \$2,594,265 from the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) for use during the two-year period beginning on the bill's effective date, and the amount of \$2,484,726 from the General Revenue Fund (GR) for use during fiscal year 2027 to DSHS to implement the bill's provisions. The bill would require DSHS to adjust the amount DSHS sets for youth camp license fees as necessary to recover the costs of these appropriations. The bill would authorize DSHS to use \$500,000 in capital budget authority for the appropriations during the 2026-27 biennium.

Methodology

The above tables reflect total appropriations made in the bill.

According to DSHS, the agency would need 16.0 additional full-time-equivalent (FTE) positions to implement the provisions of the bill: 10.0 Sanitarian IIs, 1.0 Sanitarian IV, and 5.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs. The agency reports that all additional FTEs would require standard office setups and that the 10.0 Sanitarians IIs would need a dedicated vehicle at an estimated cost of \$50,000 each and \$8,000 travel budgets to support travel related to youth camp inspections. 4.0 Emergency Management Program Coordinator IIIs would also need \$8,000 travel budgets. Total costs would be \$2,594,265 in fiscal year and \$2,484,726 each year thereafter.

According to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the appropriation from the ESF would take place on or after September 1, 2025, and any impact on interest or investment earnings within the ESF would be negligible. The Comptroller assumes there would be an increase to General Revenue in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 as a result of increased youth camp fee collections, as would be required by the bill. The Comptroller's analysis assumes DSHS would recover the entire amount of the ESF appropriation in fiscal year 2026, and that of the General Revenue appropriation in fiscal year 2027; as a result, there would be a gain to General Revenue in fiscal year 2026 and net zero impact to General Revenue in fiscal year 2027.

Additionally, according to the Comptroller, while creating a new civil penalty and allowing the Attorney General to recover reasonable expenses could result in an increase in revenue, the extent to which resident youth camp operators would violate the bill's requirements and the amount of the subsequent assessment for those violations is not known and cannot be estimated. This analysis assumes any related revenue gain would be insignificant.

Technology

According to DSHS, the additional FTEs would need software licenses at a cost of \$22,880 in fiscal year 2026 and \$11,296 each year thereafter.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

LBB Staff: JMc, FV, SD, CMA, NV

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATURE 2nd CALLED SESSION 2025

August 18, 2025

TO: Honorable Ken King, Chair, House Committee on Disaster Preparedness & Flooding, Select

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1 by Darby (Relating to resident youth camp emergency plans and preparedness; authorizing a civil penalty.), **As Introduced**

The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined due to the number of additional staff and specific class titles needed to promulgate rules relating to the resident youth camp emergency plans and to review and approve those plans being unknown.

The bill would require a resident youth camp operator, for each resident youth camp, to develop and implement a written emergency plan with procedures for responding to an emergency event, designate in the plan a camp emergency preparedness supervisor, annually review and as necessary update the plan, and annually submit the plan to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). A resident youth camp operator would not be required to submit the plan to DSHS until May 1, 2026. If DSHS were to determine a submitted emergency plan does not meet the minimum standards prescribed by department rule, the resident youth camp operator would be required to revise and resubmit the plan not later than the 90th day after the date the operator receives notice from DSHS of the plan's deficiencies. The bill would authorize DSHS to provide recommendations for the operator to implement in the next annual update to the plan.

The bill would require the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in coordination with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), to prescribe by rule the information to be included in a resident youth camp emergency plan, the minimum number of training hours required on the plan, the form and manner for submission of the plan to DSHS, and DSHS's procedures for determining whether the plan meets prescribed minimum standards.

The bill would authorize the Attorney General to bring an action to impose a civil penalty against a resident youth camp operator who violates the bill's provisions and related rules in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation. The civil penalty would be remitted to DSHS to offset agency administrative costs. The bill would also authorize the Attorney General to recover reasonable expenses incurred in bringing such an action.

This analysis assumes that DSHS would need additional staff to promulgate rules relating to the resident youth camp emergency plans and to review and approve those plans, but the number of additional staff and the specific class titles needed for those functions is unknown. It is assumed that costs to the Office of the Attorney General, HHSC, and TDEM would be insignificant, though costs to TDEM would be dependent on staffing needs for the coordination with HHSC.

According to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, although creating a new civil penalty and allowing the Attorney General to recover reasonable expenses could result in an increase in revenue, the extent to which resident youth camp operators would violate the requirements in the bill and the amount of the subsequent assessment for those violations is not known. As a result, the impact of the bill on state revenue cannot be estimated. This analysis assumes any revenue gain would be insignificant.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of, 575 Texas Division of Emergency Management

LBB Staff: JMc, CMA