

CHAPTER 260

H.B. No. 1470

An Act relating to a licensee's duty to respond to inquiries of the State Board of Insurance.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 1.24, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 1.24. **TO MAKE INQUIRIES [OF COMPANY].** The Board is authorized to address any inquiries to any insurance company or insurance agent, or to the holder of any permit, certificate of registration, or other authorization issued or existing under the authority or authorization of this code, in relation to the company's, agent's, or holder's [its] business [and] condition, or any matter connected with its transactions which the Board may deem necessary for the public good or for a proper discharge of its duties. It shall be the duty of the addressee to promptly answer such inquiries in writing. *A response made under this article that is otherwise privileged or confidential by law remains privileged or confidential unless and until introduced into evidence at an administrative hearing or in a court of competent jurisdiction.*

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on April 18, 1985, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 15, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved: June 4, 1985

Effective: August 26, 1985