

CHAPTER 735

H.B. No. 1674

AN ACT

relating to the participation of appraisal districts in emergency communications programs.

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

SECTION 1. Section 771.001, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:
Sec. 771.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Advisory commission" means the Advisory Commission on State Emergency Communications.

(2) "Emergency communication district" means:

(A) a public agency or group of public agencies acting jointly that provided 9-1-1 service before September 1, 1987, or that had voted or contracted before that date to provide that service; or

(B) a district created under Subchapter B, C, or D, Chapter 772.

(3) "Intrastate long distance service provider" means a telecommunications carrier providing intrastate long distance service, as defined by the advisory commission.

(4) "Local exchange service provider" means a telecommunications carrier providing telecommunications service in a local exchange service area under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

(5) "9-1-1 service" means a telecommunications service that provides the user of the public telephone system the ability to reach a public safety answering point by dialing the digits 9-1-1.

(6) "Public agency" means the state, a municipality, a county, an emergency communication district, a regional planning commission, an *appraisal district*, or any other political subdivision or district that provides, *participates in the provision of*, or has authority to provide fire-fighting, law enforcement, ambulance, medical, 9-1-1, or other emergency services.

(7) "Public safety agency" means the division of a public agency that provides fire-fighting, police, medical, or other emergency services, or a private entity that provides emergency medical or ambulance services.

(8) "Public safety answering point" means a continuously operated communications facility that is assigned the responsibility to receive 9-1-1 calls and, as appropriate, to dispatch public safety services or to extend, transfer, or relay 9-1-1 calls to appropriate public safety agencies.

(9) "Regional planning commission" means a commission established under Chapter 391, Local Government Code.

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 30, 1993: Yeas 128, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 24, 1993: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 16, 1993.

Effective June 16, 1993.