This document is intended to provide guidance and is designed for use by TDEM’s Preparedness Section. It can also be used by planners responsible for developing and maintaining emergency planning documents including state and local emergency management plans and annexes. It is available by request to interested planning partners for use in their emergency management efforts.

This document is not intended to supersede any guidance developed by the Texas Department of Public Safety or the Texas Division of Emergency Management.
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Preface

Most documents produced by TDEM’s planning team make reference to a state or federal statute. This guide is designed to help planners, writers, and editors navigate the legislative maze with ease.

The development of this document was supported by the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program.
### Using This Document

This legislative navigation guide is a reference tool for emergency planners. This section explains how to use this guide to find current legal information.

This document is not designed to be read from cover to cover. Use this page as a navigation tool to quickly find the information you need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start here for basic information about relevant laws.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find out how to conduct legal research online here.</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to search the Texas constitution here.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find out when a chapter, subchapter or section of a statute becomes law.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to find a topic in Texas’ statutes and constitution.</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go here to find state agency rules.</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to find summaries of recently passed bills here.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go here to find executive orders and proclamations from Texas governors.</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to conduct research on federal legislative websites.</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find out how to watch videos of the Texas legislature.</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find a list of mandates relevant to emergency management planning here.</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For an explanation of the acronyms and terms in this document, please refer to the State of Texas Acronyms and Terms (STAT) book.

This document is one in a series of emergency management planning tools. All guides in the series combine to form a comprehensive Planner’s Toolkit.
Overview and Purpose
This section explains why the legislative guide is important and for whom it is written.

Goal
Give emergency management planners a tool to help them research and learn more about federal and state legislation that affects emergency management planning.

Objectives
- Explain how lawmaking impacts emergency management planning.
- Highlight key online legal information resources.
- Provide step-by-step guidance for conducting legal research using these resources.
- Assist team members in referencing proper authorities.

Audience
- TDEM’s Preparedness Section.
- Interested planning partners.

Planning Assumptions
- Accurate plans must be based upon the latest versions of legal mandates.
- Online search tools make it easy for people to find accurate, up-to-date legal information.
Texas Lawmaking
In this section, key aspects of Texas law-making are explained.

Governments function through the structure provided by a constitution. From the Constitution, three branches work to fulfill mandates resulting in differing types of legal rules or guidelines: judicial decisions, statutes and treaties. Statutes and treaties involve the legislative and executive branches working together. The following table demonstrates how these various legal sources relate to one another:

Only some laws address how government approaches the phases of emergency management. Fewer still need to be recognized in emergency management plans and procedures.

State of Texas emergency management planners must be concerned with both the federal and state levels of lawmaking when developing or revising emergency management plans. Luckily the processes and sources of these are similar. This discussion focuses on the processes existing at the state level with emphasis on the process of legislatiing.
Legislation and Bill Types
In Texas, several types of legal action may be considered during a legislative session. The following chart provides an overview of bill types, how they originate, what purpose each serves, and who can provide final approval.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Final Approver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>House or Senate</td>
<td>Create new law; revise existing law.</td>
<td>Governor or 2/3 House and Senate vote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Report</td>
<td>A House or Senate committee</td>
<td>Recommend actions for the House or Senate to take on bills in report.</td>
<td>Depends on bill type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent Resolution</td>
<td>House or Senate</td>
<td>To congratulate or memorialize; may also be administrative.</td>
<td>House and Senate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>House or Senate</td>
<td>Provide formal opinion or decision, rather than a proposed law; may be offered for approval by one or both chambers.</td>
<td>House, Senate or both.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Resolution</td>
<td>House or Senate</td>
<td>Propose an amendment to the TX Constitution, ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution or request a convention to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.</td>
<td>For TX Constitutional amendments, 2/3 vote of membership in each chamber for adoption; Texas voters’ approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Resolution</td>
<td>House or Senate</td>
<td>Adopt or change chamber rules of procedure or offer congratulations or condolences.</td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bill Stages
As shown in the chart below, a bill can go through as many as eight stages before it becomes a law.

Texas Legislative Process Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislator</th>
<th>Chamber</th>
<th>Governor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bill FILED.</strong> 1</td>
<td><strong>Bill INTRODUCED.</strong> 2</td>
<td><strong>Governor signs bill.</strong> 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill reviewed, amended and voted on by committee and chamber.</td>
<td><strong>Bill ENGROSSED.</strong> 3</td>
<td>Bill becomes law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process repeated in other chamber.</td>
<td><strong>Bill ENROLLED.</strong> 4</td>
<td>Within time limit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill returned to first chamber, differences are resolved.</td>
<td><strong>Bill signed by both chamber’s officers.</strong> 5</td>
<td>Governor refuses to sign bill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bill sent to Governor.</strong> 6</td>
<td>Chambers vote to override? 8</td>
<td>Governor vetoes bill. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill does not become law.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bill sent to Governor.</strong> 6</td>
<td>Governor refuses to sign bill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governor vetoes bill. 7</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legislation Navigation Guide 5 | Page
**Legal Research Tools**

In this section, online legal researching tools used by team members are identified and previewed.

SFPU planner legal research is usually limited to capturing changes in approach that result from changes in legal foundation since the last revision of an emergency management plan.

Research tools addressed here are online and include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas Legislature Online (TLO)</td>
<td>• Access current Texas statutes and Texas Constitution</td>
<td><a href="http://www.legis.state.tx.us/">http://www.legis.state.tx.us/</a> and <a href="http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/">http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Track pending Texas legislation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Search on topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Reference Library of Texas (LRL)</td>
<td>• Access current and past Texas legislative session summaries</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/index.cfm">http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/index.cfm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Crosswalk legislation to affected code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Search on topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Register (TR)</td>
<td>• Track Texas agency rulemaking</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/about.shtml">http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/about.shtml</a> (TR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Administrative Code (TAC)</td>
<td>• Research existing code</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml">http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml</a> (TAC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Track rule and agency transfers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Access to TAC (from TR)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Search on topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Legislature Live Broadcasts</td>
<td>• See pending legislation discussed and acted upon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/">http://www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/</a> and <a href="http://www.senate.state.tx.us/bin/live.php">http://www.senate.state.tx.us/bin/live.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• See previous session activity in archives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Advisory Commission</td>
<td>• Track potential rule or agency transfers before these enter legislature</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/">http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library of Congress THOMAS website</td>
<td>• Track pending federal legislation</td>
<td><a href="http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php">http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• View congressional record and committee reports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Printing Office eCFR website</td>
<td>• Track federal agency rulemaking</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse">http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Research existing code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives CFR website</td>
<td>• Search on topics</td>
<td><a href="http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/subjects.html">http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/subjects.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-Span</td>
<td>• C-Span has 4 channels,</td>
<td><a href="http://www.c-span.org/Live-">http://www.c-span.org/Live-</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource</td>
<td>Use</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>some live feeds, not exclusively congressionally focused</td>
<td>▪ Track current session action</td>
<td>Video/C-SPAN2/, <a href="http://houselive.gov/">http://houselive.gov/</a> and <a href="http://www.senate.gov/floor/">http://www.senate.gov/floor/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conducting Online State Legal Research
In this section the functionality of the Texas Legislature Online website is introduced to team members.

Using the Texas Legislature Online (TLO) website, a planner can explore the legislative landscape of a planning topic including:

- Current statutes – laws passed by the legislature;
- Texas constitution;
- Bill status;
- Enactment or amendment;
- Specific terms or phrases;
- State agency rules; and
- Legislative session summaries.

**Current Statutes**

1. From the TLO homepage ([http://www.legis.state.tx.us/](http://www.legis.state.tx.us/)), click the “Statutes” button under the “Additional Searches” section:
2. On the “Quick Search” page that opens, use the three dropdown menu options to pull up a specific chapter in a specific code. For example, Section 418.013:

3. Click “Go” to arrive at the legislation sought:

Sec. 418.013. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL. (a) The governor by executive order may establish an emergency management council to direct the governor in all matters relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

(b) The emergency management council is composed of representatives of state agencies, boards, commissions, and other similar entities designated by the head of each entity.

(c) The emergency management council shall make recommendations to the Department of Public Safety as to the use of federal funds available under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, the Emergency Management Act of 2003, or any other federal law.

(d) The emergency management council shall assist in the division of identifying, mobilizing, and deploying emergency and disaster assistance throughout the state.

Acts 2017, 80th Leg., Ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2017. Amended by Acts 2017, 80th Leg., Ch. 226, Sec. 501, eff. September 1, 2017.

Sec. 418.014. DECLARATION OF STATE OF DISASTER. (a) The governor by executive order or proclamation may declare a disaster has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the state of disaster continues until the governor:

(1) finds that:
(A) the threat or danger has passed; or
(B) the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist;
(2) terminates the state of disaster by executive order.

(c) A state of disaster may not continue for more than 30 days unless renewed by the governor. The legislature
Texas Constitution

1. To search for something in the Texas Constitution start at the “Quick Search” page (http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/) and click the “Constitution” button under the “Additional Searches” section:

2. Use the pull-down lists of Article/Chapter and Art./Sec. to navigate way to wanted text. Functionality is identical to the Current Statutes discussion above:
Bill Status
If the Texas State Legislature is in session, it is possible to find the text of a current bill and its status.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page [http://www.legis.state.tx.us/](http://www.legis.state.tx.us/) select the current legislative session – use pull-down list and select the latest session with “(R)” in its title:

2. If the bill number is known, click on the “Bill Number” button and enter the number in the text box below (e.g., HB 204 or SB 409). HB or SB must be included in front of the number for the search to work:
3. A search this specific yields a summary history of the legislative actions, as below:

4. Once the history summary page is active, tabs along the top indicate additional information is available on the bill.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tab Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>Leads to links that provide views of the bill’s text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions</td>
<td>Leads to a table on legislative actions, dates and links to the legislative journal page that details the action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Stages</td>
<td>Presents “Actions” information graphically along with the stages the bill has yet to pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors</td>
<td>Includes the information that can be seen on the history summary page – primary and joint authors, plus the names of coauthors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captions</td>
<td>Repeats the caption text visible on the history summary page.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. If the bill number isn’t known, click on the “Word / Phrase” button and enter the search term you need (such as “zero-based budgeting”) and click “Go”:

6. This level of search will lead to a list of relevant legislation:
Enactment or Amendment

To find out when a chapter, subchapter, or section became law or was updated, follow the next few steps – the steps that lead to this starting point are found under “Current Statutes,” steps 1 – 3.

1. Look at the end of the first section of a code chapter to find the chapter’s enacting information. This image shows that Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session’s law book in Chapter 147, Section 1, which went into effect on September 1, 1987:

   
   GOVERNMENT CODE
   TITLE 4. EXECUTIVE BRANCH
   SUBTITLE B. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
   CHAPTER 418. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
   SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

   Sec. 418.001. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.
   
   Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

2. To find the enactment of a code’s subchapter, look for the information provided after the first section of that subchapter. This image (from Chapter 418) shows that Subchapter C of Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session’s law book in Chapter 147, Section 1. The subchapter went into effect on September 1, 1987. It also shows that it was amended in 2009 during the 81st Regular Session of the Legislature, and can be found in that legislative session’s law book in Chapter 1146, Section 2A.02. It went into effect on September 1, 2009:

   
   SUBCHAPTER C. TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
   Sec. 418.041. ORGANIZATION. (a) The Texas Division of Emergency Management is a division of the department.
   (b) The division is managed by a chief appointed by the public safety director of the department, with the approval of the governor. The chief serves at the pleasure of the public safety director. The chief must possess professional training and knowledge consisting of not less than five years of managerial or strategic planning experience in matters relating to public safety, security, emergency services, and emergency response.
   (c) At least once every two months, the following shall meet to coordinate efforts, prevent overlap of activities, and ensure that the state’s approach to emergency management and homeland security is unified:
   (1) a representative of the department;
   (2) a representative of the division;
   (3) a representative of the governor’s office of homeland security;
   (4) the presiding officer of the Homeland Security Council; and
   (5) a state agency representative from the emergency management council, selected by the chair of the emergency management council.
   (d) The division shall employ other coordinating and planning officers and other professional, technical, secretarial, and clerical personnel necessary to the performance of its functions.
   
   Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.
   Amended by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1146, Sec. 2A.02, eff. September 1, 2009.
3. Look at the end of each section in a code chapter to find its enacting and, if applicable, amending information. This image shows that Section 418.044 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session’s law book in Chapter 147, Section 1. The section went into effect on September 1, 1987. It also shows that it was amended in 1997 during the 75th Legislature, and can be found in that legislative session’s law book in Chapter 992, Section 6. It went into effect on September 1, 1997.

Sec. 418.044. ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL PLANS. (a) The division shall take an integral part in the development and revision of local and interjurisdictional emergency management plans. For that purpose, the division shall employ or otherwise secure the services of professional and technical personnel capable of providing expert assistance to political subdivisions and emergency management agencies. Those personnel shall consult with the subdivisions and agencies on a regularly scheduled basis and shall make field reviews of the areas, circumstances, and conditions to which particular local and interjurisdictional emergency management plans apply and may suggest revisions.

(b) The division shall encourage local and interjurisdictional agencies to seek advice from local government, business, labor, industry, agriculture, civic organizations, volunteer organizations, and community leaders.

Specific Terms or Phrases
To search for every occurrence of a certain term or phrase in Texas statutes and the Texas Constitution, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, click on “Statutes” under the “Additional Searches” section.
2. Arriving at the “Quick Search” page – below, click on “Search” in the tabs section under the page header. Select “All Codes” – actually the default setting. Type in the phrase – in quotes. Click “Submit”:

3. As an example, the search for “emergency management” results in:
4. Clicking on any link will open that document. The term of interest – emergency management in this example will be highlighted in the document. If nothing is highlighted, use the CTRL+F function to search for your phrase:

![Image of the CHAPTER 778. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT]

5. If you want to search the same term in the Texas Constitution, select “The Texas Constitution” from the “Codes(s) to Search” drop-down menu and follow steps 2 through 4.
State Agency Rules
For a look at state agency rules, follow these steps:

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, under “Additional Searches,” select “Administrative Code.” This link will take you away from the Texas Legislature Online site to Secretary of State’s website http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml:
2. A link provided at the bottom of the Texas Administrative Code home page ([http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.viewtac](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.viewtac)) brings up a menu of titles in this code. Click through the links of importance until the agency/section/information desired is found. There is not an easier way to search through these as of this document’s revision:
Legislative Session Summaries
When the legislature ends, a summary of the bills passed can be constructed.

1. From the Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, in the lower left corner of the page, under “Related Links,” click on the Legislative Reference Library.
2. With the Legislative Reference Library page open, look for “Session summaries” in the pull-down list of “Sessions”:

3. Click on “Session summaries,” then select the session of interest:
4. For example, if the 82\textsuperscript{nd} Legislature were selected, that part of the screen would look like:

![Session Summaries for the 82nd Regular Session](image)

5. Click on the Texas Legislative Council’s “Summary of Enactments” link. If there were Special Called sessions, there will be links for them.
6. Selecting the “Summary of Enactments” link will open a downloadable PDF document:

7. The document is divided by key topics allowing for an easy search of all the bills that will pass or have passed into law:
If the summary book has not been posted and a summary is needed right away, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page [http://www.legis.state.tx.us/](http://www.legis.state.tx.us/), under “Additional Searches,” click on “Reports”:

![Image of Texas Legislature Online page with reports search highlighted]

2. From the reports search page, click the “General Reports” tab – circled tab from second row of tabs in image below:

![Image of reports search page with General Reports tab highlighted]
3. Select the appropriate Legislature and type of legislation you want to search. For this example, 82 (R) – 2011 was selected and “Bills Filed Without the Governor’s Signature” was clicked:

![Image of the Legislation Navigation Guide]

4. Below is what the search results for “Bills Filed Without the Governor’s Signature” would look like. To follow the life of the original bill of interest, click on the hyperlink of that bill:

![Image of the Bills Filed Without the Governor's Signature]

5. To compile a thorough list of bills for a session, click on the four different “Bills Effective” links – that is, bills enacted into law, and “Bills Passed by the House and Senate” link – the bills enrolled by the legislature and pending action by the Governor:
For more details about specific code(s) or section(s) summaries, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, under the “Additional Searches” header, click on “Sections Affected.”

2. On the “Index to Sections Affected” page http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/isaf/lrlhome.cfm, select the latest session or, if you want to see previous sessions, select those. To search the 74th or 75th legislative sessions, click the “ISAf – 74th and 75th sessions” link at the bottom of the page.

3. For this example, the 75th Legislature, “Enrolled Legislation” was selected:
4. From the “Enrolled Legislation” screen, “Government Code” was selected:

5. Below is an example index of changes to the Government Code from the 75th Legislature:
For a more recent session, the 81st Legislature is examined here:

1. From the “Index to Sections Affected” page [http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/isaf/lrlhome.cfm](http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/isaf/lrlhome.cfm), select “81 R.S. (2009)”.
2. Select “Government Code”.
3. Type in “418” to see changes to Chapter 418 of the Government Code.
4. Select something from the “Status” menu – if it’s post legislative session, likely the list of enrolled or vetoed legislation would be desired:
5. The following image shows the enrolled bills. If it does not say “vetoed” next to “enrolled,” the bill passed into law. To see the original bill for a specific section, click on the HB or SB hyperlink. The number next to the bill number represents the section of the bill where the amended/new section can be found. For example, Section 418.006 was amended by SB 1536, specifically section 3.06 of the section. Since the bill was enrolled and not vetoed, such as HB 1090, the bill was enacted:

![Index to Sections Affected code search results](image)

6. Selecting the hyperlink “SB 1536” above leads to the text screen related to the bill. To see the actual bill that proposed the new or revised law, click on the HTML icon next to “Enrolled” and under “Bill.” Clicking on the PDF or Word document icons will open the bill in that format:

![Bill: SB 1536](image)
7. In this example, Section 3.06 of SB 1536 addresses Section 418.006 of the Government Code. The underlined text and text that has a strikethrough represents new/amended language, namely a change in citation for volunteer liability limitation and a change of language referring to the Texas Military Forces:
8. A summary of the enrolled bill can be found by clicking on the “Enrolled Bill Summary” link in the “Additional Documents” section at the bottom of the page:

9. This is the bill summary for SB 1536:
Governor Documents
To search for executive orders, messages, proclamations, speeches, and vetoes from past and present governors, follow these steps:

1. From the main Legislative Reference Library page [http://www.lrl.state.tx.us](http://www.lrl.state.tx.us), select “Legislators & Leaders.”

2. Select “Governors of Texas.”
3. On this page, you can conduct a general or very specific search for governor documents. Leave all items blank except for the keyword text box to search all documents for a specific term or phrase.

4. Results show the date of release, the related legislative session, the governor, and the document type. “Evacuation” was entered for the following results:
5. For a more specific search, select the appropriate governor’s name and document type. Enter a keyword if you are looking for a specific term or phrase. Remember to use quotes around phrases.

6. See the results for this search below:
Conducting Online Federal Legal Research
In this section the planner is introduced to the functionality of various federal legislative research websites.

THOMAS Website
A key site for starting federal legislative research is the Library of Congress’ THOMAS website, located at: [http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php](http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php)

1. To do a general term/phrase search for legislation currently in Congress, enter your phrase/term in quotes in the search box:
2. The phrase “emergency management” was entered for the following results:

3. When the link - H.R. 57 in this example - is selected, the following information is provided:
Electronic Code of Federal Regulations Website

Another important resource in researching federal regulations is the Code of Federal Regulations website (e-CFR), located at: http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/.

1. To search the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), go to the drop-down menu, which displays all 50 titles of federal regulations. The titles that impact emergency management the most are Title 42: Public Health and Title 44: Emergency Management and Assistance.
2. Select the title of interest (Title 44 was selected for this example) and press “Go”: 
3. Select the hyperlink of choice under “Browse Parts” to access regulatory text. Each hyperlink takes you to the table of contents for the section. For the following example, the “0-399” hyperlink was selected:
4. Select the hyperlink of choice to view the table of contents and navigate to the relevant text:

![Table of Contents](image.png)

**National Archive’s CFR Website**

1. Enter your search term in quotes:

2. Entering the term “disaster” yields several entries, including a subjects list of Title 44 (44 CFR):
3. Selecting the Title 44 “Disasters” subjects list yields:

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

CFR TITLE 44

List of Subjects revised as of January 1, 2004.

44 CFR Part 1
    Administrative practice and procedure

44 CFR Part 2
    Authority delegations (Government agencies)
    Organization and functions (Government agencies)
    Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

44 CFR Part 4
    Intergovernmental relations

44 CFR Part 6
    Courts
    Freedom of information
    Government employees

44 CFR Part 6
    Privacy

44 CFR Part 7
    Administrative practice and procedure
    Aged
    Civil rights
    Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

44 CFR Part 8
    Classified information

44 CFR Part 9
    Flood plains
    Reporting and recordkeeping requirements
Government Printing Office Website


1. To start a search, select the year of code updates you’re interested in and click on “Go”:

2. From here, select your topic of interest for codes that were updated that year:
Additional Online Resources
Video access to the Texas Legislature is possible as well as social media feeds for specific action of bills.

Real-time and archived video feed
Both chambers of the state legislature offer live and archived video feeds of committee and whole chamber (floor) action.

As an example of how this works, recent video feed of a House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety is presented. To access this feed:

1. Open the webpage for the House video feed: http://www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/. To get to the homeland security and public safety committee feed, select the “Recent Committee Broadcasts” link:
2. Select the committee meeting feed by clicking on the time column:

3. This causes a new window to open. Click on video feed play button.
4. This causes another window to open and the video to begin in a few moments.
A similar process allows access to the senate live feed, using the link: 
http://www.senate.state.tx.us/bin/live.php.

1. Access to the live feed in this example is not possible as the senate is not in session, however if a committee was in session, access would be by the link to the right of the screen shot. Archived feed is also available through the link circled.
2. Selecting the archived video leads to available video feeds. Activate preferred feed by clicking the link under the date column.

3. Selection of the link, activates a new window with the video feed starting after a few moments.
Personalized tracking of legislative action

To initiate a personalized media feed from the TLO website, a “MyTLO” account must be created or an existing account must be logged onto at http://www.legis.state.tx.us/MyTLO/Login/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fMyTLO%2fAlerts%2fBills.aspx:

1. Once accessed, several interactive functions are possible, including creating a “Bill List”:
2. Through the “Bill List,” specialized lists of bills can be developed but first the list must be created. The example here is a list called “HMLD Bills” for “Homeland Security bills.”

3. Once named the list can be populated with relevant house or senate bills. These bills are identified by number “HB###”, “SB###”, etc. When entered, click on “Save” and the database will begin emailing notifications when the status of the bill changes.
**Significant State and Federal Legislation**

This section provides emergency management planners with a list of resources that can aid in better understanding the legal foundations of emergency management plans.

## State of Texas

The following table presents state-level references each with relevance to this document and a hyperlink to its online location. They are presented in order of constitution, statute, executive order and other key references.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constitution of the State of Texas</td>
<td>Describes the basic principles and laws for the State of Texas, the powers and duties of state government, and guarantee of certain rights to Texas residents.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.constitution.legis.state.tx.us">http://www.constitution.legis.state.tx.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Administrative Code Title 37</td>
<td>Defines the administrative duties of multiple state agencies as they relate to public safety and corrections in Texas.</td>
<td><a href="http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac?ext.ViewTAC=tac_view=2&amp;ti=37">http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac?ext.ViewTAC=tac_view=2&amp;ti=37</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Education Code Section 37.108</strong></td>
<td>Defines the parameters for multi-hazard emergency operations planning, auditing and reporting.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Education Code Chapter 88</strong></td>
<td>Describes The Texas A &amp; M University System and the agencies and services of that system.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Education Code Section 88.112-88.116</strong></td>
<td>Describes the South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact ratified by the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Oklahoma. Details roles and responsibilities.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm#88.112">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm#88.112</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Chapter 418</strong></td>
<td>Provides authority and mechanisms to clarify and strengthen key roles, as well as authorize and provide for cooperation and coordination of an emergency management system embodying all aspects of predisaster preparedness and post disaster response.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Section 418.042</strong></td>
<td>Describes provisions to be kept current by TDEM in the comprehensive state emergency management plan.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Section 418.050</strong></td>
<td>Provides guidelines for reentry of areas previously evacuated because of a disaster or threat of disaster.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Section 418.11</strong></td>
<td>Describes the Texas Statewide Mutual Aid System.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.018">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.018</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Section 418.117</strong></td>
<td>Provides for reciprocity in professional licensure.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.117">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.117</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Chapter 421</strong></td>
<td>Describes the governor’s role and responsibilities in state homeland security.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.421.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.421.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Government Code Chapter 433</strong></td>
<td>Describes the circumstances under which the governor may proclaim a state of emergency and</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 121 Subchapter B</strong></td>
<td>Defines the role and responsibilities of Public Health Authorities.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.121.htm#B">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.121.htm#B</a></td>
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<td>Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 508</td>
<td>Authorizes the commissioner of public health or a health authority to respond to the introduction of an environmental or toxic agent into the environment in a manner similar to that authorized for responding to an outbreak of a communicable disease, as provided in Section 81.085.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.508.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.508.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Health and Safety Code Section 531.002</td>
<td>Defines the local mental health authority and its responsibility with a specified region for planning, policy development, coordination, and resource development and allocation to help ensure the provision of mental health services in the most appropriate and available setting.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.531.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.531.htm</a></td>
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<td>Texas Occupations Code Chapter 651</td>
<td>Regulates cemetery and crematory services, funeral direction and embalming.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/OC/htm/OC.651.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/OC/htm/OC.651.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Transportation Code Chapter 541</td>
<td>Defines individual and governmental authorities related to vehicles, traffic and rules of the road.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/TN/htm/TN.541.htm">http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/TN/htm/TN.541.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RP57-Relating to implementing recommendations from the Governor’s Task Force on Evacuation, Transportation and Logistics</td>
<td>Directs TDEM to develop a statewide hurricane evacuation and shelter plan for persons with critical transportation needs including medical patients and those with access and functional needs.</td>
<td><a href="http://governor.state.tx.us/news/executive-order/3631/">http://governor.state.tx.us/news/executive-order/3631/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides planning guidance to local emergency management and shelter planners to meet access and functional needs in general population shelters.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.preparingtexas.org/preparedness.aspx?page=32137bc8-eed7-42bb-ad7e-2765fd8adb9">https://www.preparingtexas.org/preparedness.aspx?page=32137bc8-eed7-42bb-ad7e-2765fd8adb9</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Texas Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2010-2013</td>
<td>Specifies hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout the state.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/documents/txhazmitplan.pdf">http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/documents/txhazmitplan.pdf</a></td>
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**Federal**

The following table presents federal-level authority sources, their relevance to this document, and hyperlinks to their online location.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 U.S.C. § 793 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended Section 508</td>
<td>Ensures the accessibility of technology to persons with disabilities to the extent it does not pose an undue burden on an agency or employer. Applies to, but is not solely focused on, federal web sites. Does not apply to web pages of private industry.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/act.htm">http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/act.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 U.S.C. §§ 4151 et seq. Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended</td>
<td>Requires access to facilities designed, built, altered or leased with federal funds.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.access-board.gov/about/laws/aba.htm">http://www.access-board.gov/about/laws/aba.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</td>
<td>Establishes national standards to eliminate and address discrimination against individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ada.gov">http://www.ada.gov</a></td>
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<td><strong>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 2008</strong></td>
<td>Protects the privacy of student education records. Applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. Gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are &quot;eligible students.&quot;</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996</strong></td>
<td>Allows for the privacy and security of a person’s individual identifiable information. Allows individuals to carry their health insurance from one job to another to avoid a lapse in coverage.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/">http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Law 88-352 78 STAT 241 Civil Rights Act of 1964</strong></td>
<td>Prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/titlevii.cfm">http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/titlevii.cfm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Law 100-408 Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988, as amended</strong></td>
<td>Ensures the availability of a large pool of funds to provide prompt and orderly compensation of members of the public who incur damages from a nuclear or radiological incident no matter who might be liable. Requires Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees and U.S. Department of Energy contractors to enter into agreements of indemnification to cover personal injury and property damage to those harmed by a nuclear or radiological incident.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ans.org/pi/ps/docs/ps54-bi.pdf">http://www.ans.org/pi/ps/docs/ps54-bi.pdf</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Public Law 109-308 Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act) of 2006</strong></td>
<td>Amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.animallaw.info/statutes/stusfed2006pl109_308.htm">http://www.animallaw.info/statutes/stusfed2006pl109_308.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Order 13166 Improving Access to Services for Persons of Limited English Proficiency</strong></td>
<td>Improves access to federally conducted and assisted programs and activities for persons who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lep.gov/13166/eolep.htm">http://www.lep.gov/13166/eolep.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments</strong></td>
<td>Establishes regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of federal policies that have tribal implications. Strengthens U.S. government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes and reduces the imposition of unfunded mandates upon tribes.</td>
<td><a href="http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/eos/eo13175.html">http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/eos/eo13175.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Order 13347 Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness</strong></td>
<td>Ensures the federal government supports the safety and security of individuals with disabilities in situations involving disasters.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/emergencypre/eo13347disabilitiesemergencypreparedness.pdf">http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/emergencypre/eo13347disabilitiesemergencypreparedness.pdf</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Order 13407 Public Alert and Warning System</strong></td>
<td>Establishes an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people in natural and man-made disasters and other hazards to public safety and well-being.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/eo/13407.htm">http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/eo/13407.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments</strong></td>
<td>Shows state and local government officials how to identify and fix problems that prevent people with disabilities from gaining equal access to state and local government programs, services and activities. Guides state and local officials on how to conduct accessibility surveys of their buildings and facilities to identify and remove architectural barriers to access.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm">http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</strong></td>
<td>Responds to and publicizes disease outbreaks, food safety alerts, and provides disease surveillance and monitoring among many other missions. Networks researchers, scientists, doctors, nurses, economists, communicators, educators, technologists, epidemiologists and many other professionals who contribute their expertise to improve public health.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/">http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CDC Public Health Law Program</strong></td>
<td>Protects and promotes public health by developing law-related tools and providing legal technical assistance to public health practitioners and state, tribal, local and territorial policymakers.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/">http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Justice (DOJ)</strong></td>
<td>Enforces the law and defends the interests of the U.S. according to the law. Ensures public safety against threats foreign and domestic. Provides federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime. Seeks just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior. Ensures fair and impartial administration of justice.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.justice.gov/">http://www.justice.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)</strong></td>
<td>Offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency through a system that allows states to send personnel, equipment and commodities to help disaster-relief efforts in other states. Established in 1996.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.emacweb.org/">http://www.emacweb.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental</strong></td>
<td>Protects human health and the environment through</td>
<td><a href="http://www.epa.gov/">http://www.epa.gov/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Protection Agency (EPA)</strong></td>
<td>focus on climate change, air quality, chemical safety, clean communities, water protection, environmentalism and environmental justice, and state and tribal partnerships.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</strong></td>
<td>Coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to and recovering from natural and man-made domestic disasters including terrorism.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.fema.gov/">https://www.fema.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEMA Guidance on Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters November 2010</strong></td>
<td>Provides planning guidance that can be incorporated into existing shelter plans to state emergency managers and shelter planners to meet access and functional needs in general population shelters.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odic/fnss_guidance.pdf">http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odic/fnss_guidance.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Limited English Proficiency (LEP): A Federal Interagency Website</strong></td>
<td>Promotes the cooperative understanding of the importance of language access to federally conducted and federally assisted programs. Supports Title VI regulations of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 regarding language access. Serves as a clearinghouse of information, tools and</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lep.gov/">http://www.lep.gov/</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National Council on Disability (NCD)</strong></td>
<td>Advises the president, congress and other federal agencies on policies, programs, practices and procedures that affect people with disabilities. Collaborates with people with disabilities to serve as a trusted advisor to state, tribal communities, local governments and other entities and organizations.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ncd.gov">http://www.ncd.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Response Framework May 2013</strong></td>
<td>Shows how the nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. Develops the scalable, flexible and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System to align key roles and responsibilities across the nation.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7371">http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7371</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The National Strategy for Homeland Security October 2007</strong></td>
<td>Guides, organizes and unifies the nation’s homeland security efforts. Provides a common framework for the nation to focus efforts on preventing and disrupting terrorist attacks; protecting the American people, our critical infrastructure, and key resources; responding to and recovering from incidents that do occur; and continuing to strengthen our foundation and ensure our long-term success as a nation.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hSDL.org/?view&amp;did=479633">http://www.hSDL.org/?view&amp;did=479633</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC)</strong></td>
<td>Works to integrate and coordinate emergency preparedness, response and recovery for children and adults with disabilities and others with access and functional needs before, during and after a disaster.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fema.gov/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-1">http://www.fema.gov/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-1</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)</strong></td>
<td>Protects the health of all Americans and provides essential human services especially for those who are least able to help themselves. Many HHS-funded services are provided at the local level by state and county agencies or through private-sector grantees.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hhs.gov">http://www.hhs.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Nongovernment Resources

The following table presents non-governmental organization/agency sources, their relevance to all-hazards planning, and hyperlinks to their online location.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
<th>Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>National and international disaster-relief organization that focuses on meeting people’s immediate emergency needs including shelter, food, and health and emotional health service.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.redcross.org">www.redcross.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Rights Legal Center</td>
<td>Advocates for the rights of people with disabilities in order to eliminate discrimination and other legal barriers that keep people with disabilities in poverty. Trains local governments, employers, the business community and people with disabilities and has close working relationships with disability commissions and grassroots disability organizations.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org/">http://www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Congress of American Indians</td>
<td>The organization works to protect and enhance treaty and sovereign rights; secure traditional laws, cultures, and ways of life for descendants; promote a common understanding of the rightful place of tribes in the family of American governments; and improve the quality of life for Native communities and peoples.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ncai.org/">http://www.ncai.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Emergency Management Association</td>
<td>Nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) association dedicated to enhancing public safety by improving the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all emergencies, disasters, and threats to our nation's security.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nemaweb.org/">http://www.nemaweb.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Organization on Disability</td>
<td>Promotes the full participation of America’s 56 million people with disabilities in all aspects of life. Focuses on increasing employment opportunities for the 79 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities who are not employed.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nod.org/">http://www.nod.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Relevance</td>
<td>Link</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Voluntary Agencies Active in Disasters (NVOAD)</td>
<td>Nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that serves as the forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle—preparation, response and recovery—to help disaster survivors and their communities.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nvoad.org/">http://www.nvoad.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Salvation Army (TSA)</td>
<td>National and international nonprofit organization whose efforts include food distribution and disaster relief.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf">http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2013 Texas Legislation

The following table presents the 2013 State of Texas Legislation from the 83rd (R) Legislature impacting emergency management and homeland security.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
<th>Impacted Statute(s)</th>
<th>Effective</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB 403</td>
<td>Extends certain protections to a qualified municipal inspector who volunteers to provide disaster response services. Relates to liability of certain certified municipal inspectors for services rendered during an emergency or disaster.</td>
<td>Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Sections 150.001 and 150.004.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 487</td>
<td>Authorizes certain persons of a municipality or a county to accept assistance described by Section 79.003(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to address man-made or natural disasters. A person defined by Section 79.001, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, would not be liable for an act or omission that is not reckless or intentional, that occurs while providing voluntary assistance to a municipality or a county.</td>
<td>Local Government Code, Section 370.006.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 746</td>
<td>Adds a new chapter to the Occupations Code authorizing certain volunteers who are registered with the volunteer health practitioner registration system specified by the bill to provide certain services across state lines in catastrophic circumstances. Authorizes TDEM to regulate certain in-state and out-of-state volunteer health practitioners while an emergency declaration is in effect. The bill requires DSHS to administer the volunteer health practitioner registration system specified by the bill. The bill stipulates the volunteer health practitioner registration system must include information regarding the results of a criminal history background check on the health care practitioners listed in the system, as well as confirmation whether the volunteer health practitioners in the system are duly registered, licensed and in good standing.</td>
<td>Occupations Code, Chapter 115.</td>
<td>9/1/13</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 762</td>
<td>Amends current law relating to restrictions on disaster remediation contracts following a locally declared disaster.</td>
<td>Business &amp; Commerce Code, Section 57.001</td>
<td>9/1/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1025</td>
<td>Indicates appropriation increases to be made out of the Economic Stabilization Fund for state-directed deployments for natural disasters and wildfires to the Texas A&amp;M Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&amp;M Forest Service, Department of Public Safety, Parks and Wildlife Department for costs associated with wildfires and Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor.</td>
<td>Not applicable; General appropriations</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Relevance</td>
<td>Impacted Statute(s)</td>
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<td>HB 1081</td>
<td>Requires the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) to conduct a study regarding the current risk level of bovine tuberculosis.</td>
<td>Not applicable; this is a study</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1272</td>
<td>Continues the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force. Requires the Task Force to work with the Texas Education Agency, Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Health and Human Services Commission to develop a list of human trafficking key indicators, develop a training curriculum, and train certain vocations to identify human trafficking.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 402.035.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2741</td>
<td>Authorizes the DMV to issue a special permit during a major disaster declared by the President of the United States to an overweight or oversize vehicle or load that will be used only to deliver relief supplies.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 418.016.</td>
<td>Except as otherwise provided by the bill, 9/1/13</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 3096</td>
<td>Amends current law relating to an exemption from the use of an emergency notification system by certain public service providers.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 418.192.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 3178</td>
<td>Repeals Section 418.114 of the Government Code related to requiring certain political subdivisions to agree on procedures that specify the manner in which mutual aid will be provided. Amends the Government Code to remove the time requirement for a request for mutual aid to be submitted in writing. Requires cost reimbursements to all respondents to requests for mutual aid in cases where the duration of the assistance exceeds 12 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>Government Code, Sections 418.114, 418.115, and 418.1181.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 171</td>
<td>Amends the Government Code to require the chief of TDEM to establish a workgroup of appropriate emergency management council members, local government officials, and nonprofit organizations to determine if a uniform application form for assistance following a disaster may be developed for use by state agencies and by persons requesting assistance from state agencies.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 418.013.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 194</td>
<td>Amends the Local Government Code to require municipalities and counties to adopt infrastructure standards requiring at least two means of ingress and egress for use by emergency vehicles during evacuations for residential subdivisions that are subdivided into 1,000 or more lots in the unincorporated area of</td>
<td>Local Government Code, Section 232.0034.</td>
<td>9/1/13</td>
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<td>Bill</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 223</td>
<td>Designates certain vehicles of TDEM as authorized emergency vehicles.</td>
<td>Transportation Code, Sections 541.201 and 546.0065.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 1120</td>
<td>Amends current law relating to a residential tenant's lease obligation after the loss of the leased premises resulting from a natural disaster. Prohibits an apartment or property management company from requiring a displaced resident to sign a new lease at a term longer than the existing lease term before relocating the resident to a habitable unit.</td>
<td>Property Code, Section 92.062.</td>
<td>1/1/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 1134</td>
<td>Directs the Department of Information Resources (DIR) to develop strategies and a framework for the securing of cyber infrastructure by state agencies and cybersecurity risk assessment and mitigation planning. Requires DIR to assist state agencies, upon request, regarding the strategies and framework developed and to provide training to state agencies and promote public awareness on cyber security issues.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 2054.059.</td>
<td>9/1/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 1267</td>
<td>Establishes certain liability protections for any outside labor or assistance providing firefighting services on private land in conjunction with the Texas Forest Service.</td>
<td>Education Code, Section 88.104.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 1393</td>
<td>Creates a more generic reference to federal guidance on state and local homeland security plans to avoid the perception that the state is basing its plans on outdated federal documents.</td>
<td>Government Code, Sections 421.002 and 421.021.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 1394</td>
<td>Removes the requirement for a statewide critical infrastructure protection plan developed by the Homeland Security Council.</td>
<td>Government Code, Section 421.024.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 1536</td>
<td>Updates state law regulating Texas Military Forces.</td>
<td>Government Code, Chapter 437.</td>
<td>9/1/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 1556</td>
<td>Establishes the School Safety Task Force, which will study best practices for school multi-hazard emergency operations planning and make recommendations to the legislature, the Texas School Safety Center, and the governor's office of homeland security.</td>
<td>Education Code, Sections 37.1081, 37.1082, 37.2051, and 46.0081.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Maintenance and Change**

This section describes the process by which this document will be maintained and updated.

**Development**

This document was developed by the Preparedness Section of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) in 2013.

**Maintenance**

This document is maintained by TDEM’s Preparedness Section.
Abbreviations and Definitions

**Abbreviations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.C.R</td>
<td>Conference Committee Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.S.</td>
<td>Called Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB</td>
<td>House Bill</td>
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<td>HCR</td>
<td>House Concurrent Resolution</td>
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<td>HJR</td>
<td>House Joint Resolution</td>
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<td>HR</td>
<td>House Resolution</td>
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<td>(R)</td>
<td>Regular Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.S.</td>
<td>Regular Session</td>
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<td>SB</td>
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</table>

**Definitions**

**Conference Committee Report**: The text of a bill and its required attachments that is issued when a conference committee has completed its work in resolving the differences between the house and senate versions of a measure.

**Enacting Clause**: A clause required by the Texas Constitution to precede the body of each bill. The enacting clause follows the caption and must read as follows: “Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas: ...”.

**Session**: The period during which the legislature meets. There are two types of sessions. The regular session convenes every two years and may last no more than 140 days. A called session, commonly referred to as a special session, is so designated because it must be called by the governor. A called or special session may last no more than 30 days. On the Texas Legislature Online site, the regular session is indicated by an “R” or “R.S.” following the number of the legislature. Ex: 81(R) or 81st Leg., R.S. Format will depend on context. The called session is indicated by a number in parentheses following the number of the legislature. Ex: 78(2) or 78th Leg., 2nd C.S., which indicates the second called session for the 78th Legislature. Format will depend on context.

**Veto**: The rejection of an enrolled bill by the governor.
For More Information

For more information about this guide contact Bill Wahlgren, Program Specialist at bill.wahlgren@dps.texas.gov.

Please direct general questions to Kiran Dhanji, Section Administrator at kiran.dhanji@dps.texas.gov.

www.tsdps.state.tx.us/dem/preparedness/plansunit.htm