

SUBJECT: Eliminating report by emergency service and rural fire prevention districts

COMMITTEE: County Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Ramsay, G. Lewis, B. Brown, Chisum, Farabee, Hilderbran, Swinford

0 nays

2 absent — Krusee, Salinas

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, March 2 — 31-0

WITNESSES: (*On House companion bill, HB 891:*)
For — William B. Anders, Harris County

Against — None

BACKGROUND: Sec. 775.036 of the Health and Safety Code requires emergency service districts and rural fire prevention districts to submit reports to the county commissioners court by February 1 regarding the district's administration for the preceding calendar year and the district's financial condition.

Under legislation enacted in 1993, districts located wholly within one county are required to file a second report regarding the district's accounts and records with the commissioners court by June 1. The Health and Safety Code requires an audit to be performed on this report.

DIGEST: SB 417 would repeal the requirement that rural fire prevention districts and emergency services districts located wholly in one county must file the report due by February 1 of each year.

This bill would take effect on September 1, 1999.

SUPPORTERS SAY: SB 417 would streamline paperwork for emergency service and rural fire prevention districts that are located within one county. Both required reports analyze the same information, except the second report must be audited. The

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first report is unnecessary, since these districts are required to file the second report.

OPPONENTS
SAY:

No apparent opposition.