BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1180 By: Madla Jurisprudence 3-27-97 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, a firefighter or police officer who enters a premises to perform his or her duties is considered a licensee in determining liability in a civil cause of action. This bill will provide that a firefighter or police officer who enters a premises to perform his or her duties is considered a business invitee in determining liability in a civil cause of action.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1180 provides that a firefighter or police officer who enters a premises to perform his or her duties is considered a business invitee in determining liability in a civil cause of action.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 143I, Local Government Code, by adding Section 143.314, as follows:

Sec. 143.314. LIABILITY STATUS OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS. Provides that for purposes of liability, a firefighter or police officer is considered to be a business invitee when the firefighter or police officer is performing the firefighter's or police officer's duties.

SECTION 2. Provides that firefighters or police officers are to be considered invitees for subrogation purposes when municipalities seek subrogation for any money that the municipalities have expended on behalf of the firefighters or police officers.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.