

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R4856 MXM-D

H.B. 2765  
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Administration  
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Engrossed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the Texas Government Code contains a technology access clause which generally requires both visual and nonvisual access to automated information systems (AIS). This clause must be included in all documents and contracts relating to the procurement of AIS products that are entered into by the state or state agencies. The clause requires the vendor to represent and warrant equal access by both visual and nonvisual means, and to include other stipulations making products accessible to the blind and visually impaired. The nature and requirements of the jobs of emergency response personnel, police, and firefighters preclude persons with visual impairments from performing certain jobs. H.B. 2765 exempts wireless communication devices used by peace officers, firefighters, and other emergency response personnel from the technology access clause specified in Section 2157.005 of the Government Code.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

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

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 2157.005, Government Code, by adding Subsection (d), to provide that this section does not apply to the purchase of a wireless communication device to be used by peace officers, firefighters, and other emergency response personnel to respond to a public safety emergency.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.