

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R31867 E

C.S.H.B. 1998
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Intergovernmental Relations
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Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Under current federal law, cities are eligible for reimbursement of 75 percent of eligible expenses incurred for emergency shelter services during a federally declared disaster. Eligible expenses under federal law do not include straight-time salary for public employees or loss of revenue for public facilities. State law, however, does not require the state to reimburse cities for providing emergency shelter for disaster victims during a state-ordered evacuation.

The provision of shelter to evacuees involves a significant commitment of resources by the host cities, including straight-time salaries, overtime payments, and lost revenue from public facilities such as convention centers used for emergency shelter operations that displace revenue-producing activities.

C.S.H.B. 1998 amends current law relating to temporary housing and emergency shelters provided by a political subdivision for disaster victims.

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 418.004, Government Code, by adding Subdivision (6-a) to define "public facility."

SECTION 2. Amends Section 418.020, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 418.020. New heading: TEMPORARY HOUSING AND EMERGENCY SHELTER. (a) Makes no changes to this subsection.

(b) Authorizes the governor to assist a political subdivision that is the locus of temporary housing or emergency shelters for disaster victims to acquire sites necessary for temporary housing or emergency shelters and to do all things required to prepare the sites to receive and use temporary housing units or emergency shelters by becoming a copartner with the political subdivision for the execution and performance of any temporary housing or emergency shelter project for disaster victims.

(c) Makes a conforming change.

(d) Makes conforming changes.

(e) Authorizes a political subdivision that is the locus of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons moved or evacuated by recommendation or order of the governor to be assisted by any resource available to the state, including the disaster contingency fund, to ensure the political subdivision receives an advance or reimbursement of all expenses, excluding lost revenue, incurred by the political subdivision associated with the use of public facilities for temporary housing or emergency shelters and of the amounts paid for salaries and benefits of certain personnel of the political subdivision who perform duties associated with the

movement or evacuation of persons into, out of, or through the political subdivision.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2009.