SENATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 151

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS; ENSURING ACCESS TO AND DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES; REQUIRING STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES TO RENDER ASSISTANCE DURING A DISASTER OR EMERGENCY; LIMITING THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTATION FROM VICTIMS OR EVACUEES ONLY TO DETERMINE THEIR ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL LAW; PROHIBITING INQUIRING INTO IMMIGRATION STATUS IN CERTAIN LOCATIONS PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

- SECTION 1. ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES--FIRST RESPONDERS LIMITED INQUIRY.--
- A. During a disaster, state and local agencies shall render assistance to victims and evacuees to alleviate suffering and meet the basic needs of affected victims and .184365.1

evacuees and only elicit information or documentation from a victim or evacuee to determine eligibility for services under state and federal laws.

- B. State and local agencies providing emergency services shall provide assistance and services and only elicit information or documentation from a victim or evacuee to determine eligibility for services under state and federal laws.
- C. A law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician or firefighter responding to an emergency or a call for assistance shall render aid and assistance without inquiring into the immigration status of a person at the scene.
- SECTION 2. LIMITED INQUIRY IN DESIGNATED LOCATIONS.--A law enforcement officer shall not inquire into the immigration status of a person located within three hundred yards of a school or institution of higher learning, hospital or medical center or place of worship.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

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