

HB 612 -- Natural or Man-made Disaster Ordinances

Sponsor: Lichtenegger

This bill authorizes any municipality or fire protection district to adopt orders, ordinances, or resolutions, including burn ban orders, as they specifically relate to the actual or impending occurrence of a natural or man-made disaster of major proportions within the county of the municipality or fire protection district if the safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the county are jeopardized. The orders, ordinances, or resolutions may include a penalty for a violation as an infraction or a misdemeanor. Any order, ordinance, or resolution cannot apply to state agencies responsible for fire management or suppression activities.

The bill also authorizes any county commission to adopt by order or ordinance reasonable regulations relating to its emergency management functions and operations and conditions controls, including burn ban orders, as they specifically relate to the actual occurrence of a natural or man-made disaster within the county when the health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants of the county are threatened by actual or impending circumstances. The regulations may include a penalty for a violation as an infraction or a misdemeanor and can include monetary fines. Any order, ordinance, or resolution cannot apply to state agencies responsible for fire management or suppression activities.

The bill contains an emergency clause.