(1) orally, in simple, nontechnical terms in the patient's primary language, if possible; or
(2) through a means reasonably calculated to communicate with a patient who has an impairment of vision or hearing, if applicable.

(b) Notice required under Subsection (a) must also be attached to any request for payment for the patient's support.

(c) This section applies only to state-operated mental health facilities.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 592, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 592.056 to read as follows:

Sec. 592.056. NOTIFICATION OF TRUST EXEMPTION. (a) At the time a resident is admitted to a residential care facility, the facility shall provide to the resident, and the parent if the resident is a minor or the guardian of the person of the resident, written notice, in the person's primary language, that a trust that qualifies under Section 593.081 is not liable for the resident's support. In addition, the facility shall ensure that, within 24 hours after the resident is admitted to the facility, the notification is explained to the resident, and the parent if the resident is a minor or the guardian of the person of the resident:

(1) orally, in simple, nontechnical terms in the person's primary language, if possible; or
(2) through a means reasonably calculated to communicate with a person who has an impairment of vision or hearing, if applicable.

(b) Notice required under Subsection (a) must also be attached to any request for payment for the resident's support.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on March 23, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 25, 2009: Yeas 144, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.

(4) make personal investments that could reasonably be expected to create a substantial
conflict between the member's or employee's private interest and the public interest; or
(5) intentionally or knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit for having
exercised the member's or employee's official powers or performed the member's or
employee's official duties in favor of another.

(b) An employee of a metropolitan planning organization who violates Subsection (a) or
an ethics policy adopted under Subsection (c) is subject to termination of the employee's
employment or another employment-related sanction. Notwithstanding this subsection, a
policy board member or employee of a metropolitan planning organization who violates
Subsection (a) is subject to any applicable civil or criminal penalty if the violation also
constitutes a violation of another statute or rule.

(c) Each policy board shall:
(1) adopt bylaws establishing an ethics policy for employees of a metropolitan planning
organization and policy board members consistent with the standards prescribed by
Subsection (a), including provisions to prevent a policy board member from having a
conflict of interest in business before the metropolitan planning organization; and
(2) distribute a copy of the ethics policy to:
(A) each new employee not later than the third business day after the date the person
begins employment with the agency; and
(B) each new policy board member not later than the third business day after the date
the person qualifies for office.

(d) If a person with knowledge of a violation of an ethics policy established under
Subsection (c) that also constitutes a criminal offense under another law of this state reports
the violation to an appropriate prosecuting attorney who concludes that there is reasonable
basis to initiate an investigation, then, not later than the 60th day after the date a person
notifies the prosecuting attorney under this subsection, the prosecuting attorney shall notify
the Texas Ethics Commission of the status of the prosecuting attorney's investigation of the
alleged violation. The Texas Ethics Commission shall, on the request of the prosecuting
attorney, assist the prosecuting attorney in investigating the alleged violation.

(e) To the extent an employee of a metropolitan planning organization is subject to the
ethics policy of another governmental entity and to the extent that policy conflicts with this
section, the ethics policy of the other governmental entity prevails.

SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2010, each policy board of a metropolitan planning
organization shall adopt bylaws establishing an ethics policy as required by Subsection (c),
Section 472.034, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, and distribute a copy of the ethics
policy to each policy board member and employee.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on April 23, 2009: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House on May 25,
2009: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective September 1, 2009.

CHAPTER 483

S.B. No. 588

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 9; providing authority to
impose a tax and issue bonds; granting a limited power of eminent domain.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 6, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding
Chapter 8304 to read as follows:

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