

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
82R14127 SLB-F

H.B. 240
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Natural Resources
5/2/2011
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

There is concern that the accidental or unintentional removal of a septic tank lid may contribute to harmful or fatal accidents involving children accessing and then falling into septic tanks. H.B. 240 seeks to prevent such accidents by requiring the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to adopt rules to require on-site sewage disposal systems, including risers and covers, to be designed to prevent accidental or unintentional access to the system.

H.B. 240 amends current law relating to requiring the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to adopt rules preventing accidental or unintentional access to on-site sewage disposal systems.

[**Note:** While the statutory reference in this bill is to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the following amendments affect the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, as the successor agency to TNRCC.]

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality [Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission] in SECTION 1 (Section 366.012, Health and Safety Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 366.012(a), Health and Safety Code, to require the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), to assure the effective and efficient administration of this chapter, to adopt certain rules, including to adopt rules under this chapter that require on-site sewage disposal systems, including risers and covers, installed after September 1, 2012, to be designed to prevent accidental or unintentional access to the system. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.