

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 39

SESSION: 2003 Regular Session

TOPIC: Hazardous Materials Incident Response

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Overview

Amends the Hazardous Materials Incident Response Act. Expands the responsibilities of chemical assessment teams. Expands the definition of hazardous materials. Makes technical amendments to liability and workers' compensation provisions.

- 1** **Chemical assessment team.** Expands the responsibilities of chemical assessment teams ("CAT") to include simple mitigation of damage from a hazmat incident. Requires the CAT team to make recommendations to the local incident manager on how to control the incident.
- 2** **Hazardous materials.** Expands the definition of hazardous materials to include (1) hazardous materials intentionally, as opposed to accidentally, released and (2) chemical and biological substances and toxic gasses.
- 3** **Liability.** Makes a technical change to section of law addressing liability for regional hazardous materials teams to ensure that it covers both chemical assessment teams and emergency response teams.
- 4** **Workers' compensation.** Makes a technical change to the section of law addressing workers' compensation for regional hazmat teams to ensure that it covers both chemical assessment teams and emergency response teams.