

Courts oppose spending cap for disabled workers



NATIONAL

ing those with AIDS, a federal appeals court ruled.

Monday's ruling set an important prece-

BOSTON (AP) — Health insurers providing benefits to businesses can not impose selective spending caps on disabled workers, includ-

dent for interpreting the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, which bars discrimination by employers, said Marc Elovitz of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"The benefits that an employee gets, like your paycheck and, in most cases, health insurance, are covered as part of the employment relationship," Elovitz said.

The First U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling overturned a lower federal court

decision that said insurers weren't subject to the anti-discrimination act. The reversal stunned insurance lawyers.

"This case is just so wild, because the broadening of the definition of employer is just such a far-reaching stretch of what the law intended," said Marc L. Zaken, a Connecticut lawyer.

The ruling covers only the New England region, but could be cited as a precedent in cases elsewhere.

The case started in 1990 when Ronald Senter, owner of Carparts Distribution Center in Plaistow, N.H., sued his health insurance provider, Automotive Wholesalers of New England Health Benefits Plan, of Peterborough, N.H.

Senter claimed that after he contracted AIDS the company capped his benefits for AIDS-related illnesses at \$25,000. Treatment for any other disease continued to be capped at \$1 million.

Several deaths blamed on Texas floods

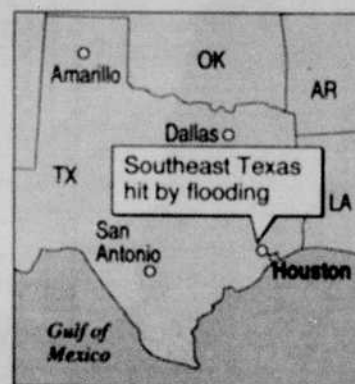
HOUSTON (AP) — A firefighter's coat draped over her shoulders, Oma McCalister clutched her metal cane and a few other possessions Tuesday as she was lifted in a rescue boat from floodwaters that had reached doorknob level.

"In 18 years no water's ever been in my house," said the 56-year-old Ms. McCalister, who lives down the street from Sims Bayou.

She and thousands more across southeast Texas were driven out of their homes by three days of rain that have swollen rivers and other waterways. The floods were blamed for at least seven deaths. Three other people were missing and presumed drowned.

In southeastern Houston, where McCalister lives, scores of people stood on high ground Tuesday and flagged down rescue trucks or boats. With daytime nearly as dark as night, some people shined flashlights to show their positions. Outside the city, some people were plucked from rooftops.

Fire Department boats dodged snakes and floating colonies of fire ants to make the rescues. One fire truck was stranded, two-



EMERALD

thirds covered with water. About 10,000 people were out of their homes and 30 counties were threatened by floods.

"My mama just got her home remodeled and got a new car, not even 4 months old," said Dante Thomas, 25. "It's in the driveway, under water."

The storm that hit Sunday brought as much as 30 inches of rain to some areas and was expected to continue at least until Wednesday. Flash-flood warnings were issued across a wide area.

"Pray for these people," Gov. Ann Richards said after touring the Lake Livingston area about 65

miles northeast of Houston. "There's an awful lot of water out here and a lot of people out of their homes."

Among the people killed was a man trying to drive through high water in Grimes County, 40 miles north of Houston. His pickup was swept into a creek.

A car carrying a mother and four children was carried away by flash flooding in the same county. The woman and two of the children survived, a third child drowned and a fourth was missing.

In Houston, all entrances to downtown from Interstate 10, the main east-west freeway, were under water at midday Tuesday. Other freeways leading into the nation's fourth-largest city were blocked in places.

The disaster would probably reach 100-year proportions if the rainfall continued into Wednesday, said Art Story, executive director of the Harris County Flood Control District.

"Sadly, it is a big one. It is headed for record territory," Story said, adding that water levels were higher than record levels reached in 1989.

Cash

For Textbooks
Mon.-Sat.

Smith Family
Bookstore

768 E. 13th
1 Block From Campus

345-1651

RE-ELECT SEN. BILL DWYER

Endorsed by:

- NARAL
- Right to Privacy

Authorized and paid for by Committee to Re-Elect
Senator Bill Dwyer, 5558 Thurston Rd., Springfield
OR 97478 Janet Dwyer, Treasurer, 303/726-0187

Look into
ODE Display
Advertising! 346-3712

The GRE is changing!

last chance
to prepare for
the December test

You'll see new math topics — like Probability and Statistics and Slope, plus a new question type — "Analysis of Explanations." And there's almost no ETS practice material for them! But Kaplan is ready.

Take a diagnostic test this week:
Lessons begin Thursday, October 20
call 345-4420 to enroll

get a higher score
KAPLAN

BACK TO SCHOOL FUTON SALE



RIVIERA
Full Size Frame
All Cotton Futon
\$199

CALGARY
Full Size Frame
All Cotton Futon
\$229

HOURS:
MON.-FRI. 11 to 6
SAT. 11 to 5
SUN. Noon to 4



STUDIO SLEEPER
Pine Frame
Cotton Futon
Twin Size
\$129

**ROCK SOFT
FUTON**

CAMPUS AREA

1231 ALDER ST. • 686-5069

