

1-1 By: Burrows, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Springer) H.B. No. 2073  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 8, 2021;  
 1-3 April 12, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Local  
 1-4 Government; May 22, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable  
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;  
 1-6 May 22, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13			X	
1-14			X	
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17			X	

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2073 By: Springer

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to quarantine leave for fire fighters, peace officers,  
 1-22 detention officers, and emergency medical technicians employed by,  
 1-23 appointed by, or elected for a political subdivision.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 180, Local Government  
 1-26 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-27 CHAPTER 180. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AFFECTING OFFICERS AND  
 1-28 EMPLOYEES OF MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF [~~MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTIES, AND~~  
 1-29 ~~CERTAIN OTHER~~] LOCAL GOVERNMENT [~~GOVERNMENTS~~]

1-30 SECTION 2. Chapter 180, Local Government Code, is amended  
 1-31 by adding Section 180.008 to read as follows:

1-32 Sec. 180.008. PAID QUARANTINE LEAVE FOR FIRE FIGHTERS,  
 1-33 PEACE OFFICERS, DETENTION OFFICERS, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
 1-34 TECHNICIANS. (a) In this section:

1-35 (1) "Detention officer" means an individual appointed  
 1-36 or employed by a political subdivision as a county jailer or other  
 1-37 individual responsible for the care and custody of individuals  
 1-38 incarcerated in a county or municipal jail.

1-39 (2) "Emergency medical technician" means an  
 1-40 individual who is:

1-41 (A) certified as an emergency medical technician  
 1-42 under Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code; and

1-43 (B) employed by a political subdivision.

1-44 (3) "Fire fighter" means a paid employee of a  
 1-45 municipal fire department or emergency services district who:

1-46 (A) holds a position that requires substantial  
 1-47 knowledge of fire fighting;

1-48 (B) has met the requirements for certification by  
 1-49 the Texas Commission on Fire Protection under Chapter 419,  
 1-50 Government Code; and

1-51 (C) performs a function listed in Section  
 1-52 143.003(4)(A).

1-53 (4) "Health authority" has the meaning assigned by  
 1-54 Section 121.021, Health and Safety Code.

1-55 (5) "Peace officer" means an individual described by  
 1-56 Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, who is elected for,  
 1-57 employed by, or appointed by a political subdivision.

1-58 (b) The governing body of a political subdivision shall  
 1-59 develop and implement a paid quarantine leave policy for fire  
 1-60 fighters, peace officers, detention officers, and emergency

2-1 medical technicians who are employed by, appointed by, or elected  
2-2 for the political subdivision and ordered to quarantine or isolate  
2-3 due to a possible or known exposure to a communicable disease while  
2-4 on duty.

2-5 (c) A paid quarantine leave policy must:  
2-6 (1) provide that a fire fighter, peace officer,  
2-7 detention officer, or emergency medical technician on paid  
2-8 quarantine leave receive:

2-9 (A) all employment benefits and compensation,  
2-10 including leave accrual, pension benefits, and health benefit plan  
2-11 benefits for the duration of the leave; and

2-12 (B) reimbursement for reasonable costs related  
2-13 to the quarantine, including lodging, medical, and transportation;  
2-14 and

2-15 (2) require that the leave be ordered by the person's  
2-16 supervisor or the political subdivision's health authority.

2-17 (d) A political subdivision may not reduce a fire fighter's,  
2-18 peace officer's, detention officer's, or emergency medical  
2-19 technician's sick leave balance, vacation leave balance, holiday  
2-20 leave balance, or other paid leave balance in connection with paid  
2-21 quarantine leave taken in accordance with a policy adopted under  
2-22 this section.

2-23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-27 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

2-28 \* \* \* \* \*