

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 81

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to peace officer education and training regarding contacts
3 between a foreign national arrested for a criminal offense and
4 foreign consular officials.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, is amended
7 by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

8 (j) As part of the minimum curriculum requirements, the
9 commission shall establish a statewide comprehensive education and
10 training program on the proper methods and procedures necessary to
11 ensure that a foreign national arrested in this state is given the
12 opportunity to communicate with an official from the consulate of
13 the foreign national's country as soon as is practicable after the
14 foreign national's arrest.

15 SECTION 2. (a) The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer
16 Standards and Education shall establish the curriculum for a
17 comprehensive education and training program for peace officers as
18 required by Section 1701.253(j), Occupations Code, as added by this
19 Act, on or before March 1, 2004.

20 (b) For persons who are licensed peace officers on November
21 1, 2003, the first course required under Section 1701.253(j),
22 Occupations Code, as added by this Act, must be completed before
23 November 1, 2005.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect November 1, 2003.