

By: Corte

H.B. No. 1235

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of security forces in certain metropolitan rapid transit authorities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 451.108, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a) An authority may establish a security force, employ security personnel, and commission security personnel as [~~and employ~~] peace officers.

(b) A peace officer commissioned under this section, except as provided by Subsections (c) and (d) [~~Subsection (c)~~], may:

(1) make an arrest in any county in which the transit authority system is located as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense against the law of this state or a political subdivision of this state if the offense or threatened offense occurs on or involves the transit authority system or its users;

(2) make an arrest for an offense involving injury or detriment to the transit authority system or its users;

(3) enforce [~~traffic~~] laws and investigate traffic accidents that involve or occur in the transit authority system; and

(4) provide emergency and public safety services to

1 the transit authority system or users of the transit authority
2 system.

3 (d) A peace officer who holds a commission under this
4 section from an authority created before 1980 in which the
5 principal municipality has a population of less than 1.2 million
6 and who has filed with the authority the oath of a peace officer has
7 all the powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers in the
8 counties in which the transit authority system is located, provides
9 services, or is supported by a general sales and use tax while the
10 peace officer is on the transit authority system property or
11 performing duties in connection with the transit authority system
12 or its users.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.