

By: West

S.B. No. 568

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 relating to security officers for medical corporations in certain  
2 municipalities.  
3

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 51.214, Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 51.214. SECURITY OFFICERS FOR MEDICAL CORPORATIONS IN  
8 CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES. (a) In any municipality with a population  
9 of 1.18 million or more, the governing board of a private, nonprofit  
10 medical corporation that provides security services for an  
11 institution of higher education or a private postsecondary  
12 educational institution and other entities located within the same  
13 medical complex, or that provides security services for a branch of  
14 that medical corporation [~~complex~~], may employ and commission  
15 security personnel to enforce the law of this state within the  
16 jurisdiction designated by Subsection (c) [~~at the medical complex~~  
17 ~~and its branches~~].

18 (b) An officer commissioned under this section may make  
19 arrests and has all the powers, privileges, and immunities of a  
20 peace officer while [~~on the property under the control and~~  
21 ~~jurisdiction of the medical corporation or while otherwise~~]  
22 performing the officer's [~~his~~] assigned duties within the  
23 jurisdiction designated by Subsection (c). An officer assigned to  
24 duty and commissioned shall take and file the oath required of peace

1 officers and shall execute and file a good and sufficient bond in  
2 the sum of \$1,000, payable to the governor, with two or more good  
3 and sufficient sureties, conditioned that the officer [~~he~~] will  
4 fairly, impartially, and faithfully perform the duties required of  
5 the officer [~~him~~] by law. The bond may be sued on from time to time  
6 in the name of the person injured until the whole amount is  
7 recovered.

8 (c) The jurisdiction of an officer commissioned under this  
9 section is limited to:

10 (1) property owned, leased, managed, or controlled by  
11 the medical corporation; and

12 (2) a perimeter area that extends not farther than one  
13 mile from property owned, leased, managed, or controlled by the  
14 medical corporation, including public streets or alleys.

15 (d) An officer commissioned by a medical corporation under  
16 this section is not entitled to compensation or benefits provided  
17 by this state or a political subdivision of this state.

18 (e) The state or a political subdivision of this state is  
19 not liable for an act or omission of an officer commissioned under  
20 this section during the performance of the officer's assigned  
21 duties.

22 (f) A medical corporation may not commission a person under  
23 this section unless the person obtains a peace officer license  
24 issued by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and  
25 Education. The medical corporation shall pay to the Commission on  
26 Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education on behalf of an  
27 employee any fees that are necessary to obtain a required license.

1        (g) A person's commission and any authority to act as an  
2 officer under this section are automatically revoked if the  
3 person's employment with a medical corporation is terminated for  
4 any reason.

5            SECTION 2. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

6            (b) A person commissioned before the effective date of this  
7 Act by a private nonprofit medical corporation under Section  
8 51.214, Education Code, must obtain a peace officer license issued  
9 by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and  
10 Education not later than September 1, 2004. If that person does not  
11 obtain the license by that date, the person's commission and any  
12 authority to act as an officer under Section 51.214, Education  
13 Code, as amended by this Act, are automatically revoked.