

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 1421
By: Gallegos
Urban Affairs
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Chapter 143 of the Local Government Code is the Municipal Civil Service Act which provides specific and mandatory provisions for hiring entry level fire fighters. Applicants participate in a written examination, and are then placed on the eligibility list based on the person's written score, provided that the person scored at least a 70%.

S.B. 1421 would permit a child or adopted child of a fire fighter who died in the line of duty to be placed at the top of the eligibility list, provided the person meets all other qualifications for the position.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Fire Fighters' and Police Officers' Civil Service Commission in SECTION 1 of this bill.

ANALYSIS

Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 143, Section 143.025, Local Government Code, by adding subsection (j) which allows for the natural or adopted child of a firefighter who suffered a line-of-duty death, to be ranked at the top of any eligibility list for entry level positions provided the applicant receives a minimum passing grade on the exam. The applicant must also fulfill all the requirements for a beginning position in a fire department.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act takes effect September 1, 2005 or immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.