

By: Gallego

H.B. No. 1977

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the presentation of Star of Texas awards to peace
3 officers, firefighters, and emergency medical first responders who
4 are killed or sustain serious or fatal injuries in the line of duty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as added
7 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
8 2003, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award shall [~~may~~] be
10 awarded to each [~~a~~] peace officer who is seriously injured in the
11 line of duty and [~~or~~] the surviving next of kin of each [~~a~~] peace
12 officer who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of
13 duty.

14 SECTION 2. Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as added
15 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
16 2003, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award shall [~~may~~] be
18 awarded to each [~~a~~] firefighter who is seriously injured in the line
19 of duty and [~~or~~] the surviving next of kin of each [~~a~~] firefighter
20 who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of duty.

21 SECTION 3. Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as added
22 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
23 2003, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas

1 Award shall [~~may~~] be awarded to each [~~an~~] emergency medical first
2 responder who is seriously injured in the line of duty and [~~or~~] the
3 surviving next of kin of each [~~an~~] emergency medical first
4 responder who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of
5 duty.

6 SECTION 4. (a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award
7 awarded under Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as amended by
8 this Act, shall be awarded to peace officers who are seriously
9 injured, or the surviving next of kin of officers who are killed or
10 sustain a fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

11 (b) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award awarded under
12 Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act, shall
13 be awarded to firefighters who are seriously injured, or the
14 surviving next of kin of firefighters who are killed or sustain a
15 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

16 (c) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas
17 Award awarded under Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as
18 amended by this Act, shall be awarded to emergency medical first
19 responders who are seriously injured, or the surviving next of kin
20 of emergency medical first responders who are killed or sustain a
21 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

22 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.