

1-1 By: Gallego (Senate Sponsor - Gallegos) H.B. No. 1977
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2005;
1-3 May 12, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Intergovernmental Relations; May 19, 2005, reported favorably by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 19, 2005, sent to
1-6 printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the presentation of Star of Texas awards to peace
1-10 officers, firefighters, and emergency medical first responders who
1-11 are killed or sustain serious or fatal injuries in the line of duty.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as added
1-14 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
1-15 2003, is amended to read as follows:

1-16 (a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award shall ~~may~~ be
1-17 awarded to each ~~a~~ peace officer who is seriously injured in the
1-18 line of duty and ~~or~~ the surviving next of kin of each ~~a~~ peace
1-19 officer who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of
1-20 duty.

1-21 SECTION 2. Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as added
1-22 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
1-23 2003, is amended to read as follows:

1-24 (a) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award shall ~~may~~ be
1-25 awarded to each ~~a~~ firefighter who is seriously injured in the line
1-26 of duty and ~~or~~ the surviving next of kin of each ~~a~~ firefighter
1-27 who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of duty.

1-28 SECTION 3. Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as added
1-29 by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
1-30 2003, is amended to read as follows:

1-31 (a) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas
1-32 Award shall ~~may~~ be awarded to each ~~a~~ emergency medical first
1-33 responder who is seriously injured in the line of duty and ~~or~~ the
1-34 surviving next of kin of each ~~a~~ emergency medical first
1-35 responder who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of
1-36 duty.

1-37 SECTION 4. (a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award
1-38 awarded under Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as amended by
1-39 this Act, shall be awarded to peace officers who are seriously
1-40 injured, or the surviving next of kin of officers who are killed or
1-41 sustain a fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

1-42 (b) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award awarded under
1-43 Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act, shall
1-44 be awarded to firefighters who are seriously injured, or the
1-45 surviving next of kin of firefighters who are killed or sustain a
1-46 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

1-47 (c) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas
1-48 Award awarded under Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as
1-49 amended by this Act, shall be awarded to emergency medical first
1-50 responders who are seriously injured, or the surviving next of kin
1-51 of emergency medical first responders who are killed or sustain a
1-52 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

1-53 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-54 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-55 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-56 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-57 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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