

By: Latham

H.B. No. 1543

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to benefits from the Employees Retirement System of Texas
3 for law enforcement officers commissioned by the attorney general.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 811.001(9), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (9) "Law enforcement officer" means a member of the
8 retirement system who:

9 (A) has been commissioned as a law enforcement
10 officer by the Department of Public Safety, the Texas Alcoholic
11 Beverage Commission, the attorney general, or the Parks and
12 Wildlife Department; and

13 (B) is recognized as a commissioned law
14 enforcement officer by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer
15 Standards and Education.

16 SECTION 2. Section 814.104(b), Government Code, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 (b) A member who is at least 55 years old and who has at
19 least 10 years of service credit as a commissioned peace officer
20 engaged in criminal law enforcement activities of the Department of
21 Public Safety, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, the
22 attorney general, or the Parks and Wildlife Department, or as a
23 custodial officer, is eligible to retire and receive a service
24 retirement annuity.

1 SECTION 3. Section 815.505, Government Code, is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Sec. 815.505. CERTIFICATION OF NAMES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND
4 CUSTODIAL OFFICERS. Not later than the 12th day of the month
5 following the month in which a person begins or ceases employment as
6 a law enforcement officer or custodial officer, the Public Safety
7 Commission, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, the attorney
8 general, the Parks and Wildlife Commission, the Board of Pardons
9 and Paroles, or the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, as applicable,
10 shall certify to the retirement system, in the manner prescribed by
11 the system, the name of the employee and such other information as
12 the system determines is necessary for the crediting of service and
13 financing of benefits under this subtitle.

14 SECTION 4. Before October 1, 2007, the attorney general
15 shall certify to the Employees Retirement System of Texas, in the
16 manner prescribed by the system:

17 (1) the name of each person employed by the attorney
18 general on September 1, 2007, as a law enforcement officer as
19 defined by Section 811.001, Government Code, as amended by this
20 Act; and

21 (2) any other information the system determines is
22 necessary for the crediting of service and financing of benefits
23 for law enforcement officers employed by the attorney general under
24 Subtitle B, Title 8, Government Code.

25 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.