

By: Ogden

S.B. No. 1722

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to physical readiness and appearance standards for certain state law enforcement officers.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Sec. 614.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Law enforcement agency" means the Department of Public Safety, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and Parks and Wildlife Department.

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means a person who:

(A) is a commissioned peace officer;

(B) is employed by a law enforcement agency; and

(C) is compensated according to Schedule C of the position classification salary schedule prescribed by the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 614.152. PHYSICAL READINESS AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS.

(a) Each law enforcement agency shall adopt physical readiness and appearance standards that a law enforcement officer must meet to continue employment with the agency as a law enforcement officer. Except as provided by Subsection (b), a violation of a standard adopted under this subsection is just cause to discharge an officer or transfer an officer to a position that is not compensated

1 according to Schedule C of the position classification salary
2 schedule prescribed by the General Appropriations Act.

3 (b) A law enforcement agency may exempt a law enforcement
4 officer from a standard under Subsection (a) based on the facts and
5 circumstances of the individual case, including whether an officer
6 was injured in the line of duty.

7 SECTION 2. Not later than November 1, 2007, the Department
8 of Public Safety, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Texas
9 Department of Criminal Justice, and Parks and Wildlife Department
10 shall each adopt the standards required by Section 614.152,
11 Government Code, as added by this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.