

By: Turner of Harris

H.B. No. 780

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to eligibility requirements for a beginning police  
3 department position in certain municipalities under municipal  
4 civil service.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 143.105, Local Government Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Sec. 143.105. ELIGIBILITY FOR BEGINNING POSITION IN POLICE  
9 DEPARTMENT. In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements  
10 prescribed by Section 143.023, to be certified as eligible for a  
11 beginning position with a police department, a person must be at  
12 least 21 years of age at the end of the probationary period and  
13 have:

14 (1) served in the United States armed forces and  
15 received an honorable discharge;

16 (2) earned at least 60 hours' credit in any area of  
17 study at an accredited college or university, of which not more than  
18 12 hours' credit may be earned for training at the police officer  
19 training academy operated or sponsored by the municipality; or

20 (3) been employed full-time for at least five years as  
21 a peace officer licensed by:

22 (A) the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer  
23 Standards and Education; or

24 (B) an acceptable licensing entity in another

1 state that has law enforcement officer licensing requirements  
2 substantially equivalent to those of Chapter 1701, Occupations  
3 Code.

4 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
5 to a certification of eligibility for a beginning position in a  
6 police department that occurs on or after the effective date of this  
7 Act.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.