

By: Davis of Dallas

H.B. No. 2678

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of a statewide meet and confer
3 provision pertaining to employment matters for certain state and
4 local public safety personnel.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 617.002, Government Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as
8 follows:

9 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (d) and other law, an
10 ~~An~~ official of the state or of a political subdivision of the
11 state may not enter into a collective bargaining contract with a
12 labor organization regarding wages, hours, or conditions of
13 employment of public employees.

14 (d) This section does not apply to a labor organization
15 representing the law enforcement officers, firefighters, or
16 emergency medical services personnel in a municipality with a
17 population of more than 5,000, or to a labor organization
18 representing law enforcement officers employed by a state agency.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 617, Government Code, is amended by
20 adding Section 617.006 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 617.006. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BY STATE AGENCIES AND
22 IN CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES. (a) A state agency or a municipality
23 with a population of 5,000 or more may establish by rule a fair and
24 efficient collective bargaining system that conforms to the

1 requirements of federal law and negotiate with labor organizations
2 representing law enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency
3 medical services personnel to enter into a collective bargaining
4 agreement. The state agency or municipality may adopt or use as a
5 guide any civil service law or rule of the United States, this
6 state, or a political subdivision in this state to the extent that
7 the law or rule promotes the purposes of this chapter and is
8 consistent with the needs and circumstances of the state agency or
9 municipality.

10 (b) This section does not apply to any group of law
11 enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical services
12 personnel who are already covered by an existing meet and confer or
13 collective bargaining law that conforms with federal minimum
14 requirements.

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