

By: Deuell

S.B. No. 2419

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to preventive treatment for state employees exposed to certain contagious diseases while performing duties of employment.

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

SECTION 1. Section 607.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 607.001. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this chapter:

(1) "Public [~~,"public~~] safety employee" means a peace officer, fire fighter, detention officer, county jailer, or emergency medical services employee of this state or a political subdivision of this state.

(2) "State employee" means an employee of this state.

SECTION 2. Section 607.002, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 607.002. REIMBURSEMENT. A public safety employee or a state employee who is exposed to a contagious disease is entitled to reimbursement from the employing governmental entity for reasonable medical expenses incurred in treatment for the prevention of the disease if:

(1) the disease is not an "ordinary disease of life" as that term is used in the context of a workers' compensation claim;

(2) the exposure to the disease occurs during the course of the employment; and

(3) the employee requires preventative medical

1 treatment because of exposure to the disease.

2 SECTION 3. Section 607.003, Government Code, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 Sec. 607.003. PHYSICIAN OF CHOICE. A public safety
5 employee or a state employee who is exposed to a disease described
6 by Section 607.002 is entitled to be treated for the prevention of
7 that disease by the physician of the employee's choice.

8 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.