

By: Walle

H.B. No. 2175

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2175:

By: Dutton

C.S.H.B. No. 2175

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to grievance procedures for firefighters in certain
3 municipalities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 143.128, Local Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

7 (b-1) If the departmental grievance counselor does not
8 schedule a step I meeting within the period required by Subsection
9 (b), the fire fighter may continue to pursue the grievance action by
10 filing a step II grievance form with the department head or
11 departmental grievance counselor in accordance with Section
12 143.129.

13 SECTION 2. Section 143.129, Local Government Code, is
14 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (b-1) to
15 read as follows:

16 (a) To continue the grievance procedure, the fire fighter or
17 police officer must complete a step II grievance form and file it
18 with the department head or the departmental grievance counselor
19 within 15 calendar days after:

20 (1) the last day for scheduling a step I meeting
21 expires as provided by Section 143.128(b-1), for a grievance filed
22 by a fire fighter; or

23 (2) the date the fire fighter or police officer
24 receives the supervisor's response under Section 143.128.

1 (b-1) If the step II meeting is not held within the period
2 required by Subsection (b), the fire fighter may continue to pursue
3 the grievance action by:

4 (1) submitting a written request to the director
5 stating the fire fighter's decision to appeal to an independent
6 third party hearing examiner as provided by Section 143.057; or

7 (2) filing a step III grievance form with the director
8 in accordance with Section 143.130.

9 SECTION 3. Section 143.130(a), Local Government Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) To continue the grievance procedure, the fire fighter or
12 police officer must complete a step III grievance form and file it
13 with the director within 15 calendar days after:

14 (1) the last day for holding a step II meeting expires
15 as provided by Section 143.129(b-1), for a grievance filed by a fire
16 fighter; or

17 (2) the date the fire fighter or police officer
18 receives the department head's response under Section 143.129.

19 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
20 a grievance filed on or after September 1, 2013.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.