

AN ACT

relating to financial assistance paid to the survivors of certain law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public employees killed in the line of duty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 615.022, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 615.022. PAYMENT TO SURVIVORS. (a) If there is an eligible surviving spouse, the state shall pay \$500,000 [~~\$250,000~~] to the eligible surviving spouse.

(b) If there is no eligible surviving spouse, the state shall pay \$500,000 [~~\$250,000~~] in equal shares to surviving children.

(c) If there is no eligible surviving spouse or child, the state shall pay \$500,000 [~~\$250,000~~] in equal shares to surviving parents.

SECTION 2. Sections 615.023(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The state shall pay to the duly appointed or qualified guardian or other legal representative of an eligible surviving minor child:

(1) \$400 [~~\$200~~] each month, if there is one surviving child;

(2) \$600 [~~\$300~~] each month, if there are two surviving

1 children; or

2 (3) \$800 [~~\$400~~] each month, if there are three or more
3 surviving children.

4 (b) A child's entitlement to assistance payable under this
5 section ends on the last day of the month that includes the child's
6 18th birthday. At that time, payments to any other surviving minor
7 children shall be adjusted, as necessary, to conform to the amounts
8 payable under Subsection (a).

9 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply in
10 relation to a payment of assistance made to survivors of certain
11 public servants on or after the effective date of this Act
12 regardless of the date the death of the public servant occurs.

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1278 was passed by the House on May 12, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1278 was passed by the Senate on May 26, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor