

By: Murr

H.B. No. 2241

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the carrying of concealed handguns by certain county  
3 officers and employees in a courthouse.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 46.03, Penal Code, is amended by adding  
6 Subsection (b-1) and amending Subsection (c) to read as follows:

7 (b-1) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (a)(3)  
8 that the actor was:

9 (1) a county officer who possessed or carried a  
10 concealed handgun that the person was licensed to carry under  
11 Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code; or

12 (2) a county employee who:

13 (A) possessed or carried a concealed handgun that  
14 the person was licensed to carry under Subchapter H, Chapter 411,  
15 Government Code; and

16 (B) received express permission to possess or  
17 carry the handgun from:

18 (i) the commissioners court of the county  
19 that employed the person; and

20 (ii) the county officer or department head  
21 who directly supervised the person.

22 (c) In this section:

23 (1) "County employee" has the meaning assigned by  
24 Section 155.041, Local Government Code.

1           (2) "County officer" means a county judge, county  
2 commissioner, county attorney, justice of the peace, sheriff,  
3 county tax assessor-collector, county clerk, district clerk,  
4 county treasurer, county auditor, county purchasing agent, or  
5 constable.

6           (3) "Premises" has the meaning assigned by Section  
7 46.035.

8           (4) [~~(2)~~] "Secured area" means an area of an airport  
9 terminal building to which access is controlled by the inspection  
10 of persons and property under federal law.

11           SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
12 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
13 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
14 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,  
15 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For  
16 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
17 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred  
18 before that date.

19           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.