

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 1959

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to peace officers commissioned by the State Board of  
Veterinary Medical Examiners.

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

SECTION 1. Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
amended to read as follows:

Art. 2.12. WHO ARE PEACE OFFICERS. The following are peace  
officers:

(1) sheriffs, their deputies, and those reserve  
deputies who hold a permanent peace officer license issued under  
Chapter 1701, Occupations Code;

(2) constables, deputy constables, and those reserve  
deputy constables who hold a permanent peace officer license issued  
under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code;

(3) marshals or police officers of an incorporated  
city, town, or village, and those reserve municipal police officers  
who hold a permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter  
1701, Occupations Code;

(4) rangers and officers commissioned by the Public  
Safety Commission and the Director of the Department of Public  
Safety;

(5) investigators of the district attorneys', criminal  
district attorneys', and county attorneys' offices;

(6) law enforcement agents of the Texas Alcoholic

1 Beverage Commission;

2 (7) each member of an arson investigating unit  
3 commissioned by a city, a county, or the state;

4 (8) officers commissioned under Section [37.081](#),  
5 Education Code, or Subchapter E, Chapter 51, Education Code;

6 (9) officers commissioned by the General Services  
7 Commission;

8 (10) law enforcement officers commissioned by the  
9 Parks and Wildlife Commission;

10 (11) airport police officers commissioned by a city  
11 with a population of more than 1.18 million located primarily in a  
12 county with a population of 2 million or more that operates an  
13 airport that serves commercial air carriers;

14 (12) airport security personnel commissioned as peace  
15 officers by the governing body of any political subdivision of this  
16 state, other than a city described by Subdivision (11), that  
17 operates an airport that serves commercial air carriers;

18 (13) municipal park and recreational patrolmen and  
19 security officers;

20 (14) security officers and investigators commissioned  
21 as peace officers by the comptroller;

22 (15) officers commissioned by a water control and  
23 improvement district under Section [49.216](#), Water Code;

24 (16) officers commissioned by a board of trustees  
25 under Chapter 54, Transportation Code;

26 (17) investigators commissioned by the Texas Medical  
27 Board;

1 (18) officers commissioned by:

2 (A) the board of managers of the Dallas County  
3 Hospital District, the Tarrant County Hospital District, the Bexar  
4 County Hospital District, or the El Paso County Hospital District  
5 under Section 281.057, Health and Safety Code;

6 (B) the board of directors of the Ector County  
7 Hospital District under Section 1024.117, Special District Local  
8 Laws Code; and

9 (C) the board of directors of the Midland County  
10 Hospital District of Midland County, Texas, under Section 1061.121,  
11 Special District Local Laws Code;

12 (19) county park rangers commissioned under  
13 Subchapter E, Chapter 351, Local Government Code;

14 (20) investigators employed by the Texas Racing  
15 Commission;

16 (21) officers commissioned under Chapter 554,  
17 Occupations Code;

18 (22) officers commissioned by the governing body of a  
19 metropolitan rapid transit authority under Section 451.108,  
20 Transportation Code, or by a regional transportation authority  
21 under Section 452.110, Transportation Code;

22 (23) investigators commissioned by the attorney  
23 general under Section 402.009, Government Code;

24 (24) security officers and investigators commissioned  
25 as peace officers under Chapter 466, Government Code;

26 (25) an officer employed by the Department of State  
27 Health Services under Section 431.2471, Health and Safety Code;

1 (26) officers appointed by an appellate court under  
2 Subchapter F, Chapter 53, Government Code;

3 (27) officers commissioned by the state fire marshal  
4 under Chapter 417, Government Code;

5 (28) an investigator commissioned by the commissioner  
6 of insurance under Section 701.104, Insurance Code;

7 (29) apprehension specialists and inspectors general  
8 commissioned by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department as officers  
9 under Sections 242.102 and 243.052, Human Resources Code;

10 (30) officers appointed by the inspector general of  
11 the Texas Department of Criminal Justice under Section 493.019,  
12 Government Code;

13 (31) investigators commissioned by the Texas  
14 Commission on Law Enforcement under Section 1701.160, Occupations  
15 Code;

16 (32) commission investigators commissioned by the  
17 Texas Private Security Board under Section 1702.061(f),  
18 Occupations Code;

19 (33) the fire marshal and any officers, inspectors, or  
20 investigators commissioned by an emergency services district under  
21 Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code;

22 (34) officers commissioned by the State Board of  
23 Dental Examiners under Section 254.013, Occupations Code, subject  
24 to the limitations imposed by that section;

25 (35) investigators commissioned by the Texas Juvenile  
26 Justice Department as officers under Section 221.011, Human  
27 Resources Code; ~~and~~

1           (36) the fire marshal and any related officers,  
2 inspectors, or investigators commissioned by a county under  
3 Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Local Government Code; and

4           (37) officers commissioned by the State Board of  
5 Veterinary Medical Examiners under Section 801.164, Occupations  
6 Code.

7           SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 801, Occupations Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 801.164 to read as follows:

9           Sec. 801.164. PEACE OFFICERS. (a) The board may commission  
10 as a peace officer to enforce this chapter an employee who has been  
11 certified as qualified to be a peace officer by the Texas Commission  
12 on Law Enforcement.

13           (b) An employee commissioned as a peace officer under this  
14 chapter has the powers, privileges, and immunities of a peace  
15 officer while carrying out duties as a peace officer under this  
16 chapter.

17           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.