

By: Turner

H.B. No. 578

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain leave policies for state employees.

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

SECTION 1. Section 661.902(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The administrative head of an agency may determine that a reason other than a reason ~~[that]~~ described by Subsection (a) is sufficient for granting emergency leave. Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the administrative head ~~[and]~~ shall grant an emergency leave to an employee if the employee requests the leave and ~~[who]~~ the administrative head determines that the employee has shown good cause for taking emergency leave. The administrative head may not grant an emergency leave to an employee under this subsection unless the administrative head believes in good faith that the employee being granted the emergency leave intends to return to the employee's position with the agency on expiration of the period of emergency leave.

SECTION 2. Subchapter Z, Chapter 661, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 661.923 to read as follows:

Sec. 661.923. LEAVE DURING AGENCY INVESTIGATION. (a) The administrative head of an agency may grant leave without a deduction in salary to a state employee who is the subject of an investigation being conducted by the agency.

(b) A state employee who is the subject of an investigation

1 being conducted by the employing agency is ineligible to receive
2 leave for that reason under any other provision of this subchapter.

3 SECTION 3. Section 661.902(b), Government Code, as amended
4 by this Act, and Section 661.923, Government Code, as added by this
5 Act, apply only to a grant of leave made on or after the effective
6 date of this Act. A grant of leave made before the effective date of
7 this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date that leave was
8 granted, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.