

By: Leach

H.B. No. 621

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to requirements for certain applicants to obtain an  
3 original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a  
4 handgun; waiving a fee.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 411.175, Government Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 411.175. PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING FINGERPRINTS. The  
9 department shall establish procedures for the submission of legible  
10 and classifiable fingerprints by an applicant for a license under  
11 this subchapter who:

12 (1) is required to submit those fingerprints to the  
13 department, including an applicant under Section 411.199[~~7~~  
14 ~~411.1991~~], or 411.201; and

15 (2) resides in a county having a population of 46,000  
16 or less and does not reside within a 25-mile radius of a facility  
17 with the capability to process digital or electronic fingerprints.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, is  
19 amended by amending Section 411.1991 and adding Section 411.1993 to  
20 read as follows:

21 Sec. 411.1991. PEACE OFFICERS. (a) A person who is  
22 licensed as a peace officer under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code,  
23 and employed as a peace officer by a law enforcement agency[~~7~~ or who  
24 ~~is a member of the Texas military forces, excluding Texas State~~

1 ~~Guard members who are serving in the Texas Legislature,~~] may apply  
2 for a license under this subchapter.

3 (b) [(a-1)] An applicant who is a peace officer shall submit  
4 to the department:

5 (1) the name and rank of the applicant; and

6 (2) a current copy of the applicant's peace officer  
7 license and evidence of employment as a peace officer.

8 (c) The department may issue a license under this subchapter  
9 to an applicant under this section if the applicant complies with  
10 Subsection (b) and meets all other requirements of this subchapter,  
11 except that the applicant is not required to complete the handgun  
12 proficiency course described by Section 411.188.

13 (d) The department shall waive any fee required for the  
14 issuance of an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license  
15 under this subchapter for an applicant under this section.

16 (e) A license issued to an applicant under this section  
17 expires as provided by Section 411.183.

18 Sec. 411.1993. CERTAIN MEMBERS OF TEXAS MILITARY FORCES.

19 (a) A person who is a member of the Texas military forces, other  
20 than a member of the Texas State Guard who is serving in the Texas  
21 Legislature, may apply for a license under this subchapter.

22 (b) [(a-2)] The department shall adopt rules regarding the  
23 information required to be included in an application submitted by  
24 a member of the Texas military forces under this section.

25 (c) [(b)] The department may issue a license under this  
26 subchapter to an applicant under this section if the applicant  
27 complies with the [~~Subsection (a-1) or~~] rules adopted under

1 Subsection (b) [~~(a-2)~~, as applicable].

2 (d) [~~(c)~~] An applicant under this section shall pay a fee of  
3 \$25 for a license issued under this subchapter.

4 (e) [~~(d)~~] A license issued to an applicant under this  
5 section expires as provided by Section [411.183](#).

6 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
7 to an application that is made to obtain an original, duplicate,  
8 modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun and submitted on or  
9 after the effective date of this Act. An application described by  
10 this section that is submitted before the effective date of this Act  
11 is governed by the law in effect when the application was submitted,  
12 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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