

By: Leach

H.B. No. 1337

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the carrying or storage of a handgun by a firefighter at the fire station to which the firefighter is assigned.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 180, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 180.008 to read as follows:

Sec. 180.008. CARRYING AND STORAGE OF HANDGUN BY CERTAIN FIREFIGHTERS. (a) In this section, "firefighter" means a permanent, paid employee of the fire department of a political subdivision. The term does not include a volunteer firefighter.

(b) A political subdivision that employs a firefighter may not prohibit a firefighter who holds a license to carry a handgun under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, from carrying or storing a handgun at the fire station to which the firefighter is assigned during the firefighter's duty hours.

SECTION 2. Section 180.008, Local Government Code, as added by this Act, applies to a rule, ordinance, order, resolution, or other regulation adopted before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.