

By: Burrows

H.B. No. 1688

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of a liaison to assist law enforcement personnel with workers' compensation claims.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 404, Labor Code, is amended by adding Section 404.1525 to read as follows:

Sec. 404.1525. LAW ENFORCEMENT LIAISON. (a) In this section, "law enforcement officer" means a person who is a sworn peace officer under Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure.

(b) The public counsel shall designate an employee of the office to act as law enforcement liaison.

(c) The law enforcement liaison shall assist an injured law enforcement officer and, if applicable, the ombudsman assigned to the law enforcement officer's case, during a workers' compensation administrative dispute resolution process.

(d) The law enforcement liaison:

(1) must meet the qualifications for designation as an ombudsman under this subchapter; and

(2) is subject to the training and education requirements for an ombudsman under this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Section 404.153, Labor Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) An employer that commissions law enforcement officers shall notify the officers of the law enforcement liaison in the

1 manner prescribed by the office. In this subsection, "law
2 enforcement officer" means a person who is a sworn peace officer
3 under Article [2.12](#), Code of Criminal Procedure.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.