

By: Kacal

H.B. No. 2119

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to workers' compensation death benefit eligibility for certain spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 408.183(b-1), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), an eligible spouse who remarried is eligible for death benefits for life if the employee was a first responder, as defined by Section 504.055, who suffered death in the course and scope of employment or while providing services as a volunteer. This subsection applies regardless of the date on which the death of the first responder occurred or the spouse remarried.

SECTION 2. Section 2, Chapter 1018 (H.B. 1094), Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is repealed.

SECTION 3. A person who becomes eligible to receive benefits as a result of the change in law made by this Act is entitled only to benefits that accrue on or after the effective date of this Act.

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