

By: King of Uvalde, Raney, Guillen

H.B. No. 3015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to vacation leave time accounts for firefighter employee organizations.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 142, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 142.015 to read as follows:

Sec. 142.015. VACATION LEAVE TIME ACCOUNT FOR FIREFIGHTERS.

(a) A municipality shall establish and maintain a vacation leave time account for each firefighter employee organization.

(b) A firefighter who is a member of an employee organization may donate any amount of accumulated vacation time to the vacation leave time account of the employee organization to which the firefighter belongs.

(c) A firefighter who wishes to donate vacation time to the account established under this section must authorize the donation in writing on a form provided by the employee organization and approved by the municipality.

(d) Only a firefighter who is a member of an employee organization may use the vacation time donated to the account of the employee organization. A firefighter may use the vacation time donated under this section without receiving a reduction in salary and without reimbursing the municipality.

(e) A request to use the vacation time in an employee organization's vacation leave time account must be:

1 (1) in writing; and

2 (2) submitted to the municipality:

3 (A) by the president or the equivalent officer of
4 the employee organization or by that officer's designee; and

5 (B) at least three days before the date for which
6 the vacation time is requested.

7 (f) Before vacation time in an employee organization's
8 vacation leave time account may be used by a firefighter, the fire
9 chief, or the fire chief's designee, must approve the request to use
10 the vacation time. The fire chief or the fire chief's designee
11 shall approve a timely request unless the operational needs of the
12 fire department justify that the request be denied.

13 (g) The municipality shall account for the vacation time
14 donated to each vacation leave time account and used from each
15 account. The municipality shall credit and debit the applicable
16 vacation leave time account on an hour-for-hour basis regardless of
17 the cash value of the vacation time donated or used.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.