

By: Uresti
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S.B. No. 772

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a code enforcement officer when performing official duties to possess or carry an instrument used for deterring the bite of an animal.

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

SECTION 1. Section 46.15, Penal Code, is amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h) The provisions of Sections 46.02 and 46.03 prohibiting the possession or carrying of a club do not apply to a code enforcement officer who:

(1) holds a certificate of registration issued under Chapter 1952, Occupations Code; and

(2) possesses or carries an instrument used specifically for deterring the bite of an animal while the officer is:

(A) performing official duties; or

(B) traveling to or from a place of duty.

SECTION 2. Section 1952.051, Occupations Code, as effective September 1, 2017, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) The education requirements adopted under Subsection (b) must include education regarding the principles and procedures to be followed when possessing or carrying an instrument used specifically for deterring the bite of an animal.

1 SECTION 3. Section 1952.1051, Occupations Code, as
2 effective September 1, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 Sec. 1952.1051. CONTINUING EDUCATION. The commission by
4 rule shall prescribe continuing education requirements for code
5 enforcement officers and code enforcement officers in training
6 that:

7 (1) establish the number of hours of continuing
8 education required for renewal of a certificate of registration;

9 (2) establish an approved curriculum that includes
10 material regarding changes in applicable law and the principles and
11 procedures to be followed when possessing or carrying an instrument
12 used specifically for deterring the bite of an animal; and

13 (3) provide that the approved curriculum may be taught
14 by suitable public agencies and by private entities approved by the
15 department.

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