

1-1 By: Turner of Dallas, et al. H.B. No. 2143
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Whitmire)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 13, 2019;
 1-4 May 13, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Business
 1-5 & Commerce; May 20, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-6 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
 1-7 May 20, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9				
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2143 By: Whitmire

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to the eligibility of a first responder for workers'
 1-23 compensation benefits for post-traumatic stress disorder.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section 504.019, Labor Code, is amended by
 1-26 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
 1-27 follows:

1-28 (b) Post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by a first
 1-29 responder is a compensable injury under this subtitle only if it is
 1-30 based on a diagnosis that:

1-31 (1) the disorder is caused by one or more events [~~an~~
 1-32 ~~event~~] occurring in the course and scope of the first responder's
 1-33 employment; and

1-34 (2) the preponderance of the evidence indicates that:

1-35 (A) the event or events described by Subdivision
 1-36 (1) were [~~was~~] a substantial contributing factor of the disorder;
 1-37 and

1-38 (B) if not for the event or events described by
 1-39 Subdivision (1), the disorder would not have occurred.

1-40 (c) For purposes of this subtitle, the date of injury for
 1-41 post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by a first responder is the
 1-42 date on which the first responder first knew or should have known
 1-43 that the disorder may be related to the first responder's
 1-44 employment.

1-45 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
 1-46 to a claim for workers' compensation benefits based on a
 1-47 compensable injury that occurs on or after the effective date of
 1-48 this Act. A claim based on a compensable injury that occurs before
 1-49 that date is governed by the law as it existed on the date the
 1-50 compensable injury occurred, and the former law is continued in
 1-51 effect for that purpose.

1-52 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

1-53 * * * * *