

By: Kacal, King of Hemphill, Guillen,  
Raymond

H.B. No. 2503

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to workers' compensation death benefit eligibility for  
certain spouses of certain employees 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, or an  
individual described by Section 615.003(1), Government Code, or  
Section 501.001(5)(F), 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 or other individual occurred.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section  
408.183(b-1), Labor Code, applies only to an eligible spouse who  
remarries on or after the effective date of this Act. An eligible  
spouse who remarried before that date is governed by the law as it  
existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the  
former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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