

By: Kacal

H.B. No. 2503

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to workers' compensation death benefit eligibility for
3 certain spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty.

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

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

7 (b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), an eligible spouse
8 who remarried is eligible for death benefits for life if the
9 employee was a first responder, as defined by Section 504.055, or an
10 individual described by Section 615.003(1)(A), Government Code,
11 who suffered death in the course and scope of employment or while
12 providing services as a volunteer. This subsection applies
13 regardless of the date on which the death of the first responder or
14 other individual occurred.

15 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section
16 408.183(b-1), Labor Code, applies only to an eligible spouse who
17 remarries on or after the effective date of this Act. An eligible
18 spouse who remarried before that date is governed by the law as it
19 existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the
20 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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