

By: Allen

H.B. No. 3260

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility requirements to obtain a pass for expedited access to Capitol.

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

SECTION 1. Section 411.0625(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall allow a person to enter the Capitol and the Capitol Extension, including any public space in the Capitol or Capitol Extension, in the same manner as the department allows entry to a person who presents a license to carry a handgun under Subchapter H if the person:

(1) obtains from the department a Capitol access pass; and

(2) presents the pass to the appropriate law enforcement official when entering the building or a space within the building.

(b) To be eligible for a Capitol access pass, a person must: ~~meet the eligibility requirements applicable to a license to carry a handgun under Subchapter H, other than requirements regarding evidence of handgun proficiency.~~

(1) meet the eligibility requirements applicable to a license to carry a handgun under Subchapter H, other than requirements regarding evidence of handgun proficiency, or

(2) provide an application for review by the

1 department in accordance with subsection (d) below.

2 (c) The department shall adopt rules to establish a
3 procedure by which a resident of the state may apply for and be
4 issued a Capitol access pass. Rules adopted under this section must
5 include provisions for eligibility, application, approval,
6 issuance, and renewal that:

7 (1) require the department to conduct the same
8 background check on an applicant for a Capitol access pass that is
9 conducted on an applicant for a license to carry a handgun under
10 Subchapter H;

11 (2) enable the department to conduct the background
12 check described by Subdivision (1); and

13 (3) establish application and renewal fees in amounts
14 sufficient to cover the cost of administering this section, not to
15 exceed the amounts of similar fees required under Section 411.174
16 for a license to carry a handgun.

17 (d) the department may approve an application provided by
18 those who do not meet the eligibility requirement under subsection
19 (b)(1), and may consider the amount of time that has passed
20 following conviction of a criminal offense as well as evidence of
21 good standing in the community in making a determination whether to
22 approve the application.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.