

By: Turner of Dallas

H.B. No. 3635

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to financial assistance paid to the survivors of certain
3 law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public employees
4 killed in the line of duty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 615.022, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 615.022. PAYMENT TO SURVIVORS. (a) If there is an
9 eligible surviving spouse, the state shall pay the benefits
10 described by Subsection (d) [~~\$500,000~~] to the eligible surviving
11 spouse.

12 (b) If there is no eligible surviving spouse, the state
13 shall pay the benefits described by Subsection(d) [~~\$500,000~~] in
14 equal shares to surviving children.

15 (c) If there is no eligible surviving spouse or child, the
16 state shall pay the benefits described by Subsection (d) [~~\$500,000~~]
17 in equal shares to surviving parents.

18 (d) An eligible survivor, or eligible survivors in equal
19 shares, are entitled to receive a lump sum payment in the amount
20 provided by this subsection. The lump sum payment amount payable to
21 an eligible survivor during the 12 months beginning September 1,
22 2019, is \$500,000. Effective September 1 of each following year,
23 the board of trustees of the Employees Retirement System of Texas by
24 rule shall adjust the amount of the lump sum payment required under

1 this subsection by an amount equal to the percentage change in the
2 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the
3 Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor
4 for the preceding year.

5 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a
6 payment of assistance to survivors of certain public employees on
7 or after the effective date of this Act regardless of the date the
8 public employee died.

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