

By: Jetton

H.B. No. 284

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the powers of peace officer members of the Texas National Guard and expediting applications for peace officer licenses from members of the Texas National Guard.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 437, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 437.256 to read as follows:

Sec. 437.256. LAW ENFORCEMENT POWERS OF CERTAIN NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY. (a) A member of the Texas National Guard who is a licensed peace officer and who is called to state active duty to assist the Department of Public Safety in providing security along the Texas-Mexico border may perform the functions of a peace officer at the direction of the department in any county located on the Texas-Mexico border.

(b) A member of the Texas National Guard who is a licensed peace officer and who is called to state active duty during a state of disaster declared under Section 418.014 may perform the functions of a peace officer at the direction of the Texas Division of Emergency Management in the area designated in the disaster declaration.

SECTION 2. Subchapter G, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1701.3072 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.3072. EXPEDITED LICENSE PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS. The commission shall, as soon as practicable after

1 the date a member of the Texas National Guard files an application
2 for a peace officer license:

3 (1) process the application; and

4 (2) issue the license to the applicant if the
5 applicant otherwise qualifies for the license.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the
7 last day of the legislative session.