

By: Cook

H.B. No. 2329

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the qualifications required to hold the office of constable.

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

SECTION 1. Section 86.0021(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person is not eligible to serve as constable unless:

(1) the person is eligible to be licensed under Sections 1701.309 and 1701.312, Occupations Code, and:

~~(A) [has at least an associate's degree conferred by an institution of higher education accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board,~~

~~(B)]~~ is a special investigator under Article 2.122(a), Code of Criminal Procedure; or

(B) ~~[(C)]~~ is an honorably retired peace officer or honorably retired federal criminal investigator who holds a certificate of proficiency issued under Section 1701.357, Occupations Code; or

(2) the person is an active or inactive licensed peace officer under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a constable elected or appointed to serve a term of office that begins on or after the effective date of this Act. A constable

1 serving a term of office that began before the effective date of
2 this Act is governed for the remainder of that term by the
3 applicable law that existed immediately before the effective date
4 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that
5 purpose.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.