

By: Patterson

H.B. No. 2598

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the eligibility of a first responder for workers'
3 compensation benefits for post-traumatic stress disorder.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 504.019(c), Labor Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (c) For purposes of this subtitle, the date of injury for
8 post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by a first responder is the
9 30th day after the date on which the first responder is first
10 diagnosed with [~~knew or should have known that~~] the disorder [~~may be~~
11 ~~related to the first responder's employment~~].

12 SECTION 2. The change in law made by Section 504.019(c),
13 Labor Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a claim for
14 workers' compensation benefits based on a compensable injury that
15 occurs on or after the effective date of this Act. A claim based on
16 a compensable injury that occurs before that date is governed by the
17 law as it existed on the date the compensable injury occurred, and
18 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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