

AN ACT

relating to airport police forces, including the authority to commission peace officers and the rights, privileges, and duties of those officers.

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

SECTION 1. Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 2.12. WHO ARE PEACE OFFICERS. The following are peace officers:

(1) sheriffs, their deputies, and those reserve deputies who hold a permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code;

(2) constables, deputy constables, and those reserve deputy constables who hold a permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code;

(3) marshals or police officers of an incorporated city, town, or village, and those reserve municipal police officers who hold a permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code;

(4) rangers, officers, and members of the reserve officer corps commissioned by the Public Safety Commission and the Director of the Department of Public Safety;

(5) investigators of the district attorneys', criminal district attorneys', and county attorneys' offices;

1 (6) law enforcement agents of the Texas Alcoholic  
2 Beverage Commission;

3 (7) each member of an arson investigating unit  
4 commissioned by a city, a county, or the state;

5 (8) officers commissioned under Section 37.081,  
6 Education Code, or Subchapter E, Chapter 51, Education Code;

7 (9) officers commissioned by the General Services  
8 Commission;

9 (10) law enforcement officers commissioned by the  
10 Parks and Wildlife Commission;

11 (11) ~~[airport police]~~ officers commissioned under  
12 Chapter 23, Transportation Code ~~[by a city with a population of more~~  
13 ~~than 1.18 million located primarily in a county with a population of~~  
14 ~~2 million or more that operates an airport that serves commercial~~  
15 ~~air carriers];~~

16 (12) ~~[airport security personnel commissioned as~~  
17 ~~peace officers by the governing body of any political subdivision~~  
18 ~~of this state, other than a city described by Subdivision (11), that~~  
19 ~~operates an airport that serves commercial air carriers;~~

20 ~~[(13)]~~ municipal park and recreational patrolmen and  
21 security officers;

22 (13) ~~[(14)]~~ security officers and investigators  
23 commissioned as peace officers by the comptroller;

24 (14) ~~[(15)]~~ officers commissioned by a water control  
25 and improvement district under Section 49.216, Water Code;

26 (15) ~~[(16)]~~ officers commissioned by a board of  
27 trustees under Chapter 54, Transportation Code;

1           (16) [~~(17)~~] investigators commissioned by the Texas  
2 Medical Board;

3           (17) [~~(18)~~] officers commissioned by:

4                   (A) the board of managers of the Dallas County  
5 Hospital District, the Tarrant County Hospital District, the Bexar  
6 County Hospital District, or the El Paso County Hospital District  
7 under Section [281.057](#), Health and Safety Code;

8                   (B) the board of directors of the Ector County  
9 Hospital District under Section [1024.117](#), Special District Local  
10 Laws Code;

11                   (C) the board of directors of the Midland County  
12 Hospital District of Midland County, Texas, under Section [1061.121](#),  
13 Special District Local Laws Code; and

14                   (D) the board of hospital managers of the Lubbock  
15 County Hospital District of Lubbock County, Texas, under Section  
16 [1053.113](#), Special District Local Laws Code;

17           (18) [~~(19)~~] county park rangers commissioned under  
18 Subchapter [E](#), Chapter [351](#), Local Government Code;

19           (19) [~~(20)~~] investigators employed by the Texas  
20 Racing Commission;

21           (20) [~~(21)~~] officers commissioned under Chapter [554](#),  
22 Occupations Code;

23           (21) [~~(22)~~] officers commissioned by the governing  
24 body of a metropolitan rapid transit authority under Section  
25 [451.108](#), Transportation Code, or by a regional transportation  
26 authority under Section [452.110](#), Transportation Code;

27           (22) [~~(23)~~] investigators commissioned by the

1 attorney general under Section 402.009, Government Code;

2           (23) [~~(24)~~] security officers and investigators  
3 commissioned as peace officers under Chapter 466, Government Code;

4           (24) [~~(25)~~] officers appointed by an appellate court  
5 under Subchapter F, Chapter 53, Government Code;

6           (25) [~~(26)~~] officers commissioned by the state fire  
7 marshal under Chapter 417, Government Code;

8           (26) [~~(27)~~] an investigator commissioned by the  
9 commissioner of insurance under Section 701.104, Insurance Code;

10           (27) [~~(28)~~] apprehension specialists and inspectors  
11 general commissioned by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department as  
12 officers under Sections 242.102 and 243.052, Human Resources Code;

13           (28) [~~(29)~~] officers appointed by the inspector  
14 general of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice under Section  
15 493.019, Government Code;

16           (29) [~~(30)~~] investigators commissioned by the Texas  
17 Commission on Law Enforcement under Section 1701.160, Occupations  
18 Code;

19           (30) [~~(31)~~] commission investigators commissioned by  
20 the Texas Private Security Board under Section 1702.061,  
21 Occupations Code;

22           (31) [~~(32)~~] the fire marshal and any officers,  
23 inspectors, or investigators commissioned by an emergency services  
24 district under Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code;

25           (32) [~~(33)~~] officers commissioned by the State Board  
26 of Dental Examiners under Section 254.013, Occupations Code,  
27 subject to the limitations imposed by that section;

1           (33) [~~(34)~~] investigators commissioned by the Texas  
2 Juvenile Justice Department as officers under Section 221.011,  
3 Human Resources Code; and

4           (34) [~~(35)~~] the fire marshal and any related officers,  
5 inspectors, or investigators commissioned by a county under  
6 Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Local Government Code.

7           SECTION 2. The heading to Chapter 23, Transportation Code,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9           CHAPTER 23. AIRPORT POLICE FORCES [~~SECURITY PERSONNEL~~]

10           SECTION 3. Section 23.001, Transportation Code, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12           Sec. 23.001. ESTABLISHMENT OF AIRPORT POLICE [~~SECURITY~~]  
13 FORCE; COMMISSIONING OF PEACE OFFICERS. The governing body of a  
14 joint board, as defined by Section 22.071, or the governing body of  
15 a political subdivision that operates an airport served by an air  
16 carrier certificated by the Federal Aviation Administration [~~Civil~~  
17 ~~Aeronautics—Board~~] or the United States Department of  
18 Transportation may:

- 19           (1) establish an airport police [~~security~~] force; and  
20           (2) commission and employ a peace officer, subject to  
21 Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, if the employee takes and files the  
22 oath required of peace officers [~~employ airport security~~  
23 ~~personnel~~].

24           SECTION 4. Sections 23.002 and 23.003, Transportation Code,  
25 are repealed.

26           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

S.B. No. 1550

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1550 passed the Senate on April 23, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1550 passed the House on May 18, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 3, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor