

By: King of Uvalde

H.B. No. 2455

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual occupational medical examination for fire fighters.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 180, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 180.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 180.010. ANNUAL OCCUPATIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR FIRE FIGHTERS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Fire department" has the meaning assigned by Section 419.021, Government Code.

(2) "Fire fighter" means an individual:

(A) defined as fire protection personnel under Section 419.021(3)(C), Government Code; and

(B) who is certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection under Chapter 419 of that code.

(b) A fire department shall offer an annual occupational medical evaluation to each fire fighter employed by the fire department at no cost to the fire fighter.

(c) The annual occupational medical evaluation must be confidential and include:

(1) fluid tests;

(2) a pulmonary function test;

(3) an electrocardiogram;

(4) an infectious disease screening;

1 (5) a cancer screening; and

2 (6) a chest x-ray, subject to Subsection (d).

3 (d) A fire fighter is eligible to receive a chest x-ray
4 during an annual occupational medical examination under this
5 section once every five years.

6 (e) The Texas Commission on Fire Protection shall adopt
7 rules establishing minimum standards for annual occupational
8 medical examinations under this section by using standards
9 developed by the National Fire Protection Association.

10 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
11 of this Act, but not later than June 1, 2024, the Texas Commission
12 on Fire Protection shall adopt rules as required by Section
13 180.010(e), Local Government Code, as added by this Act.

14 SECTION 3. A fire department is not required to comply with
15 Section 180.010, Local Government Code, as added by this Act, until
16 July 1, 2024.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.