

By: Alvarado

S.B. No. 1362

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to hiring and licensing certain individuals lawfully present in the United States as peace officers.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 370, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 370. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO ~~[MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY]~~ HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY OF MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SECTION 2. Chapter 370, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 370.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 370.007. COMMISSIONING AND EMPLOYING AS PEACE OFFICERS CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS LAWFULLY PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES. Notwithstanding any other law, a political subdivision that commissions and employs peace officers may commission and employ as a peace officer an individual who is lawfully present in the United States as the result of receiving deferred action from the United States Department of Homeland Security and who has obtained employment authorization from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

SECTION 3. Subchapter G, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1701.3095 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.3095. LICENSING OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS LAWFULLY PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES. The commission shall issue a peace

1 officer license to a person who:

2 (1) meets the requirements of this chapter and the
3 commission's rules;

4 (2) is lawfully present in the United States as the
5 result of receiving deferred action from the United States
6 Department of Homeland Security; and

7 (3) has obtained employment authorization from the
8 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

9 SECTION 4. As soon as practicable after the effective date
10 of this Act, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement shall adopt or
11 amend rules as necessary to comply with Section 1701.3095,
12 Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

13 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.