

By: Kerwin

H.B. No. 3049

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of animal control officers as first responders.

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

SECTION 1. Section 421.095, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 421.095. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter

(1) "First responder" means a public safety employee or volunteer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency. The term includes:

(A) a peace officer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency;

(B) fire protection personnel under section 419.021;

(C) a volunteer firefighter who is:

(i) certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection or by the state Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas; or

(ii) a member of an organized volunteer fire-fighting unit as described by section 615.003;

(D) an individual certified as emergency medical services personnel by the Department of State Health Services;

(E) an emergency response operator or emergency services dispatcher who provides communication support services

1 for an agency by responding to requests for assistance in
2 emergencies;

3 (F) an animal control officer whose duties
4 include responding rapidly to an emergency; and

5 (G) other emergency response personnel employed
6 by an agency.

7 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.