

By: Pickett

H.B. No. 115

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a county tax assessor-collector to commission certain employees as peace 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 and officers 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;

(6) law enforcement agents of the Texas Alcoholic

1 Beverage Commission;

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

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

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

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

10 (11) airport police officers commissioned by a city  
11 with a population of more than 1.18 million that operates an airport  
12 that serves commercial air carriers;

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

17 (13) municipal park and recreational patrolmen and  
18 security officers;

19 (14) security officers and investigators commissioned  
20 as peace officers by the comptroller;

21 (15) officers commissioned by a water control and  
22 improvement district under Section 49.216, Water Code;

23 (16) officers commissioned by a board of trustees  
24 under Chapter 54, Transportation Code;

25 (17) investigators commissioned by the Texas Medical  
26 Board;

27 (18) officers commissioned by the board of managers of

1 the Dallas County Hospital District, the Tarrant County Hospital  
2 District, or the Bexar County Hospital District under Section  
3 281.057, Health and Safety Code;

4 (19) county park rangers commissioned under  
5 Subchapter E, Chapter 351, Local Government Code;

6 (20) investigators employed by the Texas Racing  
7 Commission;

8 (21) officers commissioned under Chapter 554,  
9 Occupations Code;

10 (22) officers commissioned by the governing body of a  
11 metropolitan rapid transit authority under Section 451.108,  
12 Transportation Code, or by a regional transportation authority  
13 under Section 452.110, Transportation Code;

14 (23) investigators commissioned by the attorney  
15 general under Section 402.009, Government Code;

16 (24) security officers and investigators commissioned  
17 as peace officers under Chapter 466, Government Code;

18 (25) an officer employed by the Department of State  
19 Health Services under Section 431.2471, Health and Safety Code;

20 (26) officers appointed by an appellate court under  
21 Subchapter F, Chapter 53, Government Code;

22 (27) officers commissioned by the state fire marshal  
23 under Chapter 417, Government Code;

24 (28) an investigator commissioned by the commissioner  
25 of insurance under Section 701.104, Insurance Code;

26 (29) apprehension specialists and inspectors general  
27 commissioned by the Texas Youth Commission as officers under

Sections 61.0451 and 61.0931, Human Resources Code;

(30) officers appointed by the inspector general of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice under Section 493.019, Government Code;

(31) investigators commissioned by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education under Section 1701.160, Occupations Code;

(32) commission investigators commissioned by the Texas Private Security Board under Section 1702.061(f), Occupations Code;

(33) the fire marshal and any officers, inspectors, or investigators commissioned by an emergency services district under Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code;

(34) officers commissioned by the State Board of Dental Examiners under Section 254.013, Occupations Code, subject to the limitations imposed by that section; ~~and~~

(35) investigators commissioned by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission as officers under Section 141.055, Human Resources Code; and

(36) officers commissioned by the tax assessor-collector for a county under Section 6.31, Tax Code, subject to the limitations imposed by that section.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 6, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 6.31 to read as follows:

Sec. 6.31. PEACE OFFICERS FOR ENFORCEMENT. (a) The assessor-collector for a county may commission as a peace officer an employee who is:

1           (1) certified as qualified to be a peace officer by the  
2 Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education; and

3           (2) employed by the enforcement division, or the  
4 functional equivalent of the enforcement division, of the office of  
5 the tax assessor-collector, if the enforcement division or  
6 functional equivalent has been acknowledged and sanctioned by the  
7 county commissioners court.

8           (b) An employee commissioned as a peace officer under this  
9 section has the powers, privileges, and immunities of a peace  
10 officer while carrying out duties as an employee of the enforcement  
11 division, or the functional equivalent of the enforcement division,  
12 of the office of the tax assessor-collector.

13           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.