

1-1 By: Burrows, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Perry) H.B. No. 2082
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2017;
 1-3 May 10, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Business
 1-4 & Commerce; May 21, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 21, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the designation of a liaison to assist first responders
 1-20 with workers' compensation claims.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 404, Labor Code, is
 1-23 amended by adding Section 404.1525 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 404.1525. FIRST RESPONDER LIAISON. (a) In this
 1-25 section, "first responder" has the meaning assigned by Section
 1-26 504.055.

1-27 (b) The public counsel shall designate an employee of the
 1-28 office to act as first responder liaison.

1-29 (c) The first responder liaison shall assist an injured
 1-30 first responder and, if applicable, the ombudsman assigned to the
 1-31 first responder's case, during a workers' compensation
 1-32 administrative dispute resolution process.

1-33 (d) The first responder liaison:

1-34 (1) must meet the qualifications for designation as an
 1-35 ombudsman under this subchapter; and

1-36 (2) is subject to the training and education
 1-37 requirements for an ombudsman under this subchapter.

1-38 SECTION 2. Section 404.153, Labor Code, is amended by
 1-39 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

1-40 (a-1) An employer that employs first responders or
 1-41 supervises volunteer first responders shall notify the first
 1-42 responders of the first responder liaison in the manner prescribed
 1-43 by the office. In this subsection, "first responder" has the
 1-44 meaning assigned by Section 504.055.

1-45 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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