

1-1 By: Nelson, Bettencourt S.B. No. 73
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2016; January 24, 2017,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce;
 1-4 January 30, 2017, rereferred to Committee on Finance;
 1-5 March 6, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 14,
 1-6 Nays 0; March 6, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			
1-22	X			
1-23			X	

1-24 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-25 AN ACT

1-26 relating to leave policy and procedures for state employees.
 1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-28 SECTION 1. Chapter 661, Government Code, is amended by
 1-29 adding Subchapter H to read as follows:
 1-30 SUBCHAPTER H. STATE AGENCY LEAVE POLICY
 1-31 Sec. 661.251. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "state
 1-32 agency" has the meaning assigned by Section 661.001.
 1-33 Sec. 661.252. AGENCY POLICY. (a) A state agency shall
 1-34 adopt a policy governing leave for employees under this chapter.
 1-35 (b) The policy must provide clear and objective guidelines
 1-36 to establish under what circumstances an employee of the agency may
 1-37 be entitled to or granted each type of leave provided by this
 1-38 chapter.
 1-39 (c) The state agency shall post the policy adopted under
 1-40 this section on the agency's Internet website in a location easily
 1-41 accessible by the agency's employees and the public.
 1-42 SECTION 2. Section 661.902, Government Code, is amended by
 1-43 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
 1-44 follows:
 1-45 (b) The administrative head of an agency may determine that
 1-46 a reason other than a reason ~~[that]~~ described by Subsection (a) is
 1-47 sufficient for granting emergency leave. Subject to the provisions
 1-48 of this subsection, the administrative head ~~[and]~~ shall grant an
 1-49 emergency leave to an employee who the administrative head
 1-50 determines has shown good cause for taking emergency leave. The
 1-51 administrative head may not grant an emergency leave to an employee
 1-52 under this subsection unless the administrative head believes in
 1-53 good faith that the employee being granted the emergency leave
 1-54 intends to return to the employee's position with the agency on
 1-55 expiration of the period of emergency leave.
 1-56 (c) Not later than October 1 of each year, the
 1-57 administrative head of an agency shall report to the comptroller
 1-58 the name and position of each employee of the agency who was granted
 1-59 more than 32 hours of emergency leave during the previous state
 1-60 fiscal year, the reason for which the employee was granted the
 1-61 emergency leave, and the total number of hours of emergency leave

2-1 granted to the employee in that state fiscal year.

2-2 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 2101, Government Code, is
2-3 amended by adding Section 2101.042 to read as follows:

2-4 Sec. 2101.042. LEAVE REPORTING. (a) As part of the
2-5 centralized accounting and payroll system or any successor system
2-6 used to implement the enterprise resource planning component of the
2-7 uniform statewide accounting project developed under Sections
2-8 2101.031, 2101.035, and 2101.036, the comptroller shall adopt a
2-9 uniform system for use by each state agency to report leave taken by
2-10 the agency's employees. The system adopted by the comptroller must
2-11 include standardized accounting codes for each type of leave
2-12 authorized under Chapter 661.

2-13 (b) Each state agency shall use the uniform system adopted
2-14 by the comptroller under this section.

2-15 SECTION 4. Section 661.902(b), Government Code, as amended
2-16 by this Act, applies only to a grant of emergency leave made on or
2-17 after the effective date of this Act. A grant of emergency leave
2-18 made before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
2-19 effect on the date the emergency leave was granted, and the former
2-20 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

2-21 SECTION 5. The first report required under Section
2-22 661.902(c), Government Code, as added by this Act, is due October 1,
2-23 2017, and must cover the period from September 1, 2016, to August
2-24 31, 2017.

2-25 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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