

Chapter 465

H.B. No. 2082

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

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

(d) The first responder liaison:

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

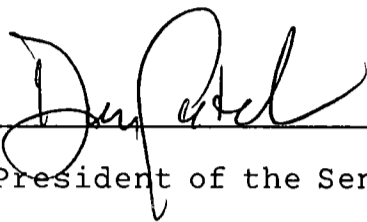
(2) is subject to the training and education requirements for an ombudsman under this subchapter.

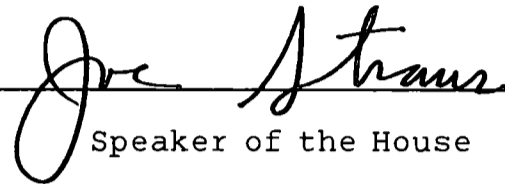
SECTION 2. Section 404.153, Labor Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) An employer that employs first responders or supervises volunteer first responders shall notify the first

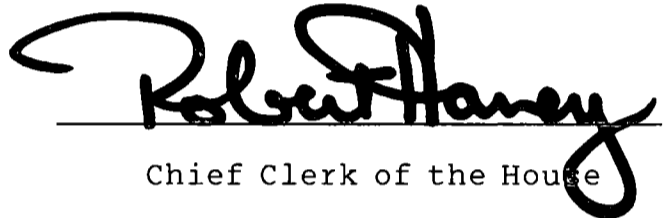
1 responders of the first responder liaison in the manner prescribed  
2 by the office. In this subsection, "first responder" has the  
3 meaning assigned by Section 504.055.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

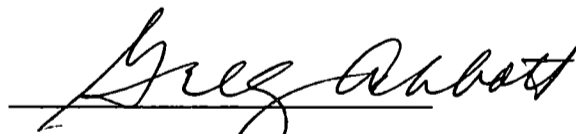
I certify that H.B. No. 2082 was passed by the House on May 9, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 7, 1 present, not voting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

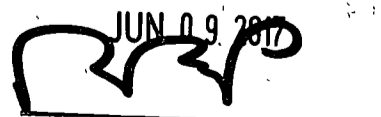
I certify that H.B. No. 2082 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 6-7-2017  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
7:00 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 09 2017  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 12, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Kelly Hancock, Chair, Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2082** by Burrows (Relating to the designation of a liaison to assist first responders with workers' compensation claims.), **As Engrossed**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Labor Code relating to the designation of a liaison to assist first responders with workers' compensation claims. Based on the analysis of the Office of Injured Employee Counsel, this analysis assumes the duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 448 Office of Injured Employee Counsel, 454 Department of Insurance

**LBB Staff:** UP, CL, EH, CP

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 31, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable René Oliveira, Chair, House Committee on Business & Industry

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2082** by Burrows (Relating to the designation of a liaison to assist first responders with workers' compensation claims.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Labor Code relating to the designation of a liaison to assist first responders with workers' compensation claims. Based on the analysis of the Office of Injured Employee Counsel, this analysis assumes the duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 448 Office of Injured Employee Counsel, 454 Department of Insurance

**LBB Staff:** UP, CL, EH, CP