

AN ACT

relating to the presentation of Star of Texas awards to peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical first responders who are killed or sustain serious or fatal injuries in the line of duty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as added by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award shall [~~may~~] be awarded to each [~~a~~] peace officer who is seriously injured in the line of duty and [~~or~~] the surviving next of kin of each [~~a~~] peace officer who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of duty.

SECTION 2. Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as added by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award shall [~~may~~] be awarded to each [~~a~~] firefighter who is seriously injured in the line of duty and [~~or~~] the surviving next of kin of each [~~a~~] firefighter who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of duty.

SECTION 3. Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as added by Chapter 614, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas

1 Award shall [~~may~~] be awarded to each [~~an~~] emergency medical first  
2 responder who is seriously injured in the line of duty and [~~or~~] the  
3 surviving next of kin of each [~~an~~] emergency medical first  
4 responder who is killed or sustains a fatal injury in the line of  
5 duty.

6 SECTION 4. (a) The Peace Officers' Star of Texas Award  
7 awarded under Section 3105.002(a), Government Code, as amended by  
8 this Act, shall be awarded to peace officers who are seriously  
9 injured, or the surviving next of kin of officers who are killed or  
10 sustain a fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

11 (b) The Firefighters' Star of Texas Award awarded under  
12 Section 3105.003(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act, shall  
13 be awarded to firefighters who are seriously injured, or the  
14 surviving next of kin of firefighters who are killed or sustain a  
15 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

16 (c) The Emergency Medical First Responders' Star of Texas  
17 Award awarded under Section 3105.004(a), Government Code, as  
18 amended by this Act, shall be awarded to emergency medical first  
19 responders who are seriously injured, or the surviving next of kin  
20 of emergency medical first responders who are killed or sustain a  
21 fatal injury, on or after September 1, 2003.

22 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

David Dewhurst

President of the Senate

Jim Caddick

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1977 was passed by the House on May 9, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1977 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Letsy Saw  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 18 JUNE '05

Date

Rick Perry

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
9:15 AM O'CLOCK

JUN 18 2005  
Roger Williams  
Secretary of State