

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for beginning positions in certain police and fire departments.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (c), Section 143.023, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A person who is 45 years of age or older may not be certified for a beginning position in a police department. [~~A person who is 36 years of age or older and under 45 may not be certified as eligible for a beginning position in a police department unless the person has at least five years' experience as a peace officer or at least five years of military experience.~~]

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 143, Section 143.025, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

(j) Notwithstanding Subsection (i), each applicant who is either a natural-born or adopted child of a fire fighter who previously suffered a line-of-duty death while covered by this chapter shall be ranked at the top of any eligibility list in which said applicant receives a minimum passing grade on that respective eligibility exam. The deceased fire fighter's applicant child must otherwise satisfy all of the requirements for eligibility for a beginning position in a fire department contained in this chapter. This commission shall promulgate rules to identify and verify each

1 applicant's eligibility for applicability of this subsection.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

David Newkum  
President of the Senate

Jim Caskill  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1421 passed the Senate on April 21, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 26, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Satsy Spaw  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1421 passed the House, with amendment, on May 20, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

17 JUNE '05  
Date

Rick Perry  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
9:31 AM O'CLOCK

JUN 17 2005  
Roger Williams  
Secretary of State