

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the issuance of a pass for expedited access to the State
3 Capitol.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 411, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 411.0625 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 411.0625. PASS FOR EXPEDITED ACCESS TO CAPITOL. (a)

8 The department shall allow a person to enter the Capitol and the
9 Capitol Extension, including any public space in the Capitol or
10 Capitol Extension, in the same manner as the department allows
11 entry to a person who presents a concealed handgun license under
12 Subchapter H if the person:

13 (1) obtains from the department a Capitol access pass;

14 and

15 (2) presents the pass to the appropriate law
16 enforcement official when entering the building or a space within
17 the building.

18 (b) To be eligible for a Capitol access pass, a person must
19 meet the eligibility requirements applicable to a license to carry
20 a concealed handgun under Subchapter H, other than requirements
21 regarding evidence of handgun proficiency.

22 (c) The department shall adopt rules to establish a
23 procedure by which a resident of the state may apply for and be
24 issued a Capitol access pass. Rules adopted under this section must

1 include provisions for eligibility, application, approval,
2 issuance, and renewal that:

3 (1) require the department to conduct the same
4 background check on an applicant for a Capitol access pass that is
5 conducted on an applicant for a concealed handgun license under
6 Subchapter H;

7 (2) enable the department to conduct the background
8 check described by Subdivision (1); and

9 (3) establish application and renewal fees in amounts
10 sufficient to cover the cost of administering this section, not to
11 exceed the amounts of similar fees required for a concealed handgun
12 license under Section 411.174.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

David Newkum
President of the Senate

Joe Straus
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2131 was passed by the House on April 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 3, 2 present, not voting.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2131 was passed by the Senate on May 12, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Lacey Shaw
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 30 MAY '11
Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
7:00 pm O'CLOCK
MAY 30 2011
Hope Radtke
Secretary of State