

By: King of Uvalde, Raney, Guillen

H.B. No. 3015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to vacation leave time accounts for firefighter employee  
3 organizations.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 142, Local Government  
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 142.015 to read as follows:

7                   Sec. 142.015. VACATION LEAVE TIME ACCOUNT FOR FIREFIGHTERS.

8       (a) A municipality shall establish and maintain a vacation leave

9       time account for each firefighter employee organization.

10                   (b) A firefighter who is a member of an employee  
11 organization may donate any amount of accumulated vacation time to  
12 the vacation leave time account of the employee organization to  
13 which the firefighter belongs.

14       (c) A firefighter who wishes to donate vacation time to the  
15 account established under this section must authorize the donation  
16 in writing on a form provided by the employee organization and  
17 approved by the municipality.

18           (d) Only a firefighter who is a member of an employee  
19 organization may use the vacation time donated to the account of the  
20 employee organization. A firefighter may use the vacation time  
21 donated under this section without receiving a reduction in salary  
22 and without reimbursing the municipality.

23                   (e) A request to use the vacation time in an employee  
24 organization's vacation leave time account must be:

1                   (1) in writing; and

2                   (2) submitted to the municipality:

3                   (A) by the president or the equivalent officer of  
4                   the employee organization or by that officer's designee; and  
5                   (B) at least three days before the date for which  
6                   the vacation time is requested.

7                   (f) Before vacation time in an employee organization's  
8                   vacation leave time account may be used by a firefighter, the fire  
9                   chief, or the fire chief's designee, must approve the request to use  
10                   the vacation time. The fire chief or the fire chief's designee  
11                   shall approve a timely request unless the operational needs of the  
12                   fire department justify that the request be denied.

13                   (g) The municipality shall account for the vacation time  
14                   donated to each vacation leave time account and used from each  
15                   account. The municipality shall credit and debit the applicable  
16                   vacation leave time account on an hour-for-hour basis regardless of  
17                   the cash value of the vacation time donated or used.

18                   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.