

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R17408 YDB-D

C.S.H.B. 2237  
By: Kuempel (Armbrister)  
Intergovernmental Relations  
5/23/2003  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, twenty or more active members of a volunteer fire department in Texas are needed for that fire department's members to be eligible for benefits from the Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS). C.S.H.B. 2237 deletes one of the ERS eligibility requirements for a fire department.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 615.003, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 615.003. **APPLICABILITY.** Provides that this chapter applies only to eligible survivors of certain individuals, including a member of an organized volunteer fire-fighting unit that renders fire-fighting services without remuneration and conducts a minimum of two drills each month, each two hours long. Deletes text regarding 20 active members, a majority of whom are present at each meeting.

SECTION 2. Provides that the change in law made by this Act to Section 615.003, Government Code, relating to the death of a member of an organized volunteer fire-fighting unit applies only in relation to a death that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act. Provides that matters regarding eligibility, payment, and benefits under Chapter 615, Government Code, in relation to a death that occurs before the effective date of this Act are governed by the law in effect when the death occurs, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2003.