

SUBJECT: Designating July 7 as Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Day

COMMITTEE: Culture, Recreation and Tourism — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Frullo, Faircloth, D. Bonnen, Fallon, Gervin-Hawkins, Krause, Martinez

0 nays

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* William Mills and Ricky Scaman, Sheriff's Association of Texas)

Against — None

DIGEST: HB 3042 would designate July 7 as Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Day, which would be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2017.

SUPPORTERS SAY: HB 3042 would recognize the ultimate sacrifice made by Texas law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Since records have been kept, nearly 1,900 law enforcement officers have died in Texas while protecting the public. These officers deserve to be honored with a special day.

The date of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Day, July 7, commemorates the day in 2016 when five law enforcement officers were killed in Dallas during a sniper attack, the deadliest single event for police in the United States since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Designating July 7 as Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Day would help our state remember that tragic event, in addition to the many sacrifices made each year by law enforcement officers.

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OPPONENTS
SAY: No apparent opposition.

NOTES: A companion bill, SB 798 by Huffines, was approved by the Senate on March 13.