

1-1 By: King S.B. No. 267  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed December 7, 2022; February 15, 2023,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Finance;  
 1-4 April 17, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 17, Nays 0; April 17, 2023,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			
1-22	X			
1-23	X			
1-24	X			
1-25	X			

1-26 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 267 By: Bettencourt

1-27 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-28 AN ACT

1-29 relating to law enforcement agency accreditation, including a grant  
 1-30 program to assist agencies in becoming accredited.

1-31 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-32 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 403, Government Code, is  
 1-33 amended by adding Section 403.0302 to read as follows:

1-34 Sec. 403.0302. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ACCREDITATION GRANT  
 1-35 PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller shall establish and administer a  
 1-36 grant program to provide financial assistance for purposes of  
 1-37 becoming accredited to each law enforcement agency that:

1-38 (1) is required to be accredited by the rules adopted  
 1-39 under Section 1701.165, Occupations Code; and

1-40 (2) employs fewer than 250 peace officers.

1-41 (b) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a  
 1-42 law enforcement agency must have executed a contract with an  
 1-43 accrediting entity described by Section 1701.165(b), Occupations  
 1-44 Code, and complete an initial assessment by the accrediting entity.

1-45 (c) Based on the results of the initial assessment completed  
 1-46 under Subsection (b), a law enforcement agency may request grant  
 1-47 funds for reimbursement of an accreditation fee, staff overtime, or  
 1-48 temporary staffing necessary to become accredited.

1-49 (d) Grant money provided under this section may only be used  
 1-50 by a law enforcement agency for the purposes of becoming  
 1-51 accredited. A law enforcement agency may not receive more than one  
 1-52 grant under this section.

1-53 (e) The amount of a grant awarded under this section may not  
 1-54 exceed \$30,000.

1-55 (f) The comptroller shall establish:

1-56 (1) eligibility criteria for grant applicants;

1-57 (2) grant application procedures;

1-58 (3) guidelines relating to grant amounts;

1-59 (4) procedures for evaluating grant applications,  
 1-60 including prioritizing applications from law enforcement agencies

2-1 employing fewer than 100 peace officers;  
2-2 (5) procedures for monitoring the use of a grant  
2-3 awarded under the program and ensuring compliance with any  
2-4 conditions of a grant; and  
2-5 (6) procedures for revoking a grant awarded under the  
2-6 program if the law enforcement agency is not accredited within the  
2-7 period specified by the rules adopted under Section 1701.165,  
2-8 Occupations Code.  
2-9 (g) Not later than December 1 of each year, the comptroller  
2-10 shall submit to the Legislative Budget Board a report that provides  
2-11 the following information for the preceding state fiscal year:  
2-12 (1) the name of each law enforcement agency that  
2-13 applied for a grant under this section; and  
2-14 (2) the amount of money distributed to each law  
2-15 enforcement agency that received a grant under this section.  
2-16 (h) The comptroller may use any revenue available for  
2-17 purposes of this section.  
2-18 (i) Notwithstanding any other law or rule, beginning  
2-19 September 1, 2029, a law enforcement agency described by Section  
2-20 1701.165, Occupations Code, must be accredited as provided by the  
2-21 rules adopted under that section to be eligible to receive any grant  
2-22 supporting law enforcement operations or equipment acquisition  
2-23 administered by the comptroller other than a grant under this  
2-24 section.  
2-25 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is  
2-26 amended by adding Section 1701.165 to read as follows:  
2-27 Sec. 1701.165. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ACCREDITATION. (a)  
2-28 This section applies only to a law enforcement agency employing at  
2-29 least 20 peace officers described by Article 2.12(1), (3), (4),  
2-30 (8), or (10), Code of Criminal Procedure, to answer emergency calls  
2-31 for service or conduct patrol operations, traffic enforcement, or  
2-32 criminal investigations.  
2-33 (b) The commission shall adopt rules requiring each law  
2-34 enforcement agency to become accredited and maintain  
2-35 accreditation:  
2-36 (1) through the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law  
2-37 Enforcement Agency Best Practices Accreditation Program;  
2-38 (2) by the Commission on Accreditation for Law  
2-39 Enforcement Agencies, Inc.;  
2-40 (3) by the International Association of Campus Law  
2-41 Enforcement Administrators;  
2-42 (4) by an accreditation program developed by the  
2-43 Sheriffs' Association of Texas; or  
2-44 (5) by an association or organization designated by  
2-45 the commission as provided by Subsection (e).  
2-46 (c) The rules adopted under Subsection (b) must require a  
2-47 law enforcement agency that is not already accredited to:  
2-48 (1) execute a contract with an approved accrediting  
2-49 entity not later than September 1, 2027; and  
2-50 (2) become accredited not later than September 1,  
2-51 2029.  
2-52 (d) The commission shall implement a program to assist law  
2-53 enforcement agencies in becoming accredited as required by the  
2-54 rules adopted under Subsection (b).  
2-55 (e) The commission shall periodically review associations  
2-56 and organizations that establish standards of practice for law  
2-57 enforcement agencies and that offer accreditation to agencies that  
2-58 meet those standards. On a majority vote of the commission that  
2-59 accreditation of law enforcement agencies in this state by an  
2-60 association or organization would benefit public safety, the  
2-61 commission may designate the association or organization as an  
2-62 accrediting entity for purposes of Subsection (b)(5).  
2-63 (f) A law enforcement agency shall annually report the  
2-64 agency's accreditation status, including the applicable  
2-65 accrediting entity described by Subsection (b), to the commission.  
2-66 (g) The commission shall post on the commission's Internet  
2-67 website a list of all law enforcement agencies that are currently  
2-68 accredited or under contract with an accrediting entity as  
2-69 described by Subsection (b).

3-1 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 1, 2023, the Texas  
3-2 Commission on Law Enforcement shall adopt the rules required by  
3-3 Section 1701.165, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

3-4 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, the comptroller shall  
3-5 establish the grant program required by Section 403.0302,  
3-6 Government Code, as added by this Act.

3-7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
3-8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3-9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3-10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3-11 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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