

By: Staples

S.B. No. 727

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the payment of fees awarded to certain attorneys
3 appointed by a court to represent indigent inmates in capital
4 cases.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 403.074, Government Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (h) to read as
8 follows:

9 (d) Except as provided by Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (g) and
10 (h), the comptroller may not pay under this section a single claim
11 in excess of \$25,000, or an aggregate of claims by a single claimant
12 during a biennium in excess of \$25,000. For the purposes of this
13 subsection, all claims that were originally held by one person are
14 considered held by a single claimant regardless of whether those
15 claims were later transferred.

16 (h) The comptroller may pay under this section a single
17 claim in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 or an aggregate of claims
18 by a single claimant during a biennium in a total amount not to
19 exceed \$50,000 to cover the fees awarded to an attorney appointed by
20 a court under Section 26.051(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, to
21 represent an indigent inmate in a capital case.

22 SECTION 2. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

23 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to an
24 award of attorney's fees on or after the effective date of this Act.

1 An award of attorney's fees made before the effective date of this
2 Act is covered by the law in effect on the date the award was made,
3 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.