

Amend CSHB 2120 as follows:

(1) Insert the following appropriately numbered section:

SECTION ____ . Section 281.056, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b), (c), and (d) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), a district may employ or contract with private legal counsel to represent the district on any legal matter. If the district does not employ or contract with private legal counsel on a legal matter, the [The] county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, as appropriate, with the duty to represent the county in civil matters shall represent the district [~~in all legal matters~~].

(b-1) The county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, as appropriate, with the duty to represent the county in civil matters shall, in all legal matters, represent a district located in:

(1) a county with a population of 650,000 or more that borders the United Mexican States;

(2) a county with a population of 3.4 million or more;
or

(3) a county with a population of more than 800,000 that was not included in the boundaries of a hospital district before September 1, 2003.

(c) A [The] board that receives legal services from a county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney may employ additional private legal counsel when the board determines that additional counsel is advisable. A board that contracts or employs private legal counsel under Subsection (b) may request and receive additional legal services from the county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, as appropriate, with the duty to represent the county in civil matters when the board determines that additional counsel is necessary.

(d) If the district receives legal services from a county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, the [The] district shall contribute sufficient funds to the general fund of the county for the account of the budget of the county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, as

appropriate, to pay all additional salaries and expenses incurred by that officer in performing the duties required by the district.