

By: Straus

H.B. No. 122

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of certain court costs in a criminal case for municipal programs enhancing public safety and security.

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

SECTION 1. Article 102.014(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(g) In a municipality with a population less than 850,000 according to the most recent federal decennial census, the money collected under this article in a municipal court case must be used for a school crossing guard program if the municipality operates one. If the municipality does not operate a school crossing guard program or if the money received from court costs from municipal court cases exceeds the amount necessary to fund the school crossing guard program, the municipality may:

(1) ~~either~~ deposit the additional money in an interest-bearing account;

(2) ~~or~~ expend the additional money ~~it~~ for programs designed to enhance child safety, health, or nutrition, including child abuse prevention and intervention and drug and alcohol abuse prevention; or

(3) expend the additional money for programs designed to enhance public safety and security.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a violation or an offense committed on or after the effective

1 date of this Act. A violation or an offense committed before the
2 effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect when the
3 violation or offense was committed, and the former law is continued
4 in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, a
5 violation or an offense was committed before the effective date of
6 this Act if any element of the violation or offense occurred before
7 that date.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.