

By: Turner of Harris

H.B. No. 2246

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the ratio of correctional officers to prisoners in a
3 county jail.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 351, Local Government
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 351.005 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 351.005. RATIO OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS TO PRISONERS.

8 (a) The sheriff shall ensure that:

9 (1) at least one correctional officer is stationed on
10 each floor of a county jail on which 10 or more prisoners are
11 housed;

12 (2) at least one correctional officer is stationed on
13 each floor of the county jail for every 48 prisoners housed on that
14 floor; and

15 (3) sufficient supervisors and other essential
16 personnel are present at the county jail to perform the functions
17 required by the Commission on Jail Standards.

18 (b) The commissioners court shall provide the sheriff with
19 resources necessary to ensure that staffing requirements imposed by
20 Subsection (a) are met.

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.