

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 1977

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

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

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

Sec. 351.005. RATIO OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS TO PRISONERS.

(a) The sheriff shall ensure that:

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

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

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

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

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