

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 442  
By: Guillen  
Homeland Security & Public Safety  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

There is concern that current statute does not adequately address the establishment of an emergency radio infrastructure account to be used for various state homeland security-related purposes. H.B. 442 intends to establish an emergency radio infrastructure account to be used to fund the planning, development, provision, enhancement, and maintenance of an interoperable statewide emergency radio infrastructure or for another public safety purpose.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 442 amends the Government Code to establish the emergency radio infrastructure account in the general revenue fund to consist of money deposited by the comptroller of public accounts from criminal fees paid on conviction and all interest attributable to money held in the account. The bill authorizes the appropriation of money in the account to the Department of Public Safety and limits the use of the money to the following: the planning, development, provision, enhancement, or ongoing maintenance of an interoperable statewide emergency radio infrastructure; purposes in accordance with the statewide integrated public safety radio communications plan developed by the office of the governor; the development of a regional or state interoperable radio communication system; grants by the department to regional councils of government that have entered into interlocal agreements authorized under state law and grants to state agencies requiring emergency radio infrastructure; or other public safety purposes. The bill prohibits the use of fees collected in and distributed from the emergency radio infrastructure account for purchasing or maintaining radio subscriber equipment. The bill specifies that provisions of law relating to the use of dedicated revenue do not apply to the account. The bill defines "emergency radio infrastructure."

H.B. 442 amends the Local Government Code to replace the fugitive apprehension account with the emergency radio infrastructure account for purposes of the deposit of a percentage of criminal fees paid on conviction.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2011.