

By: Burton

S.B. No. 1529

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation and regulation of a law enforcement agency or police department.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1701.163, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) The entity may not begin operation of the law enforcement agency or police department unless:

(1) the entity submits all of the information required under Subsection (b) to the commission; and

(2) the commission issues the entity an agency number for the law enforcement agency or police department.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1701.1631 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.1631. SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS OF CERTAIN AGENCIES OR DEPARTMENTS. The commission may suspend the operations of a law enforcement agency or police department described by Section 1701.163 if the entity creating the law enforcement agency or police department:

(1) cannot demonstrate an ongoing need for the law enforcement agency or police department in the community;

(2) does not maintain adequate funding for the law enforcement agency or police department;

(3) does not maintain or provide adequate physical

1 resources for officers of the law enforcement agency or police
2 department;

3 (4) does not maintain or provide adequate physical
4 facilities for the law enforcement agency or police department,
5 including an adequate evidence room, dispatch area, and public
6 area;

7 (5) does not maintain or enforce adequate law
8 enforcement policies for the law enforcement agency or police
9 department, including policies on:

10 (A) use of force;

11 (B) vehicle pursuit;

12 (C) professional conduct of officers;

13 (D) domestic abuse protocols;

14 (E) response to missing persons;

15 (F) supervision of part-time officers; and

16 (G) impartial policing;

17 (6) does not have an effective administrative
18 structure for the law enforcement agency or police department;

19 (7) does not maintain adequate liability insurance for
20 the law enforcement agency or police department; or

21 (8) does not meet another standard or requirement the
22 commission implements by rule.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.