

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 6, 2015

TO: Honorable Larry Phillips, Chair, House Committee on Homeland Security & Public Safety

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1887 by Muñoz, Jr. (Relating to the establishment of a regional center for public safety excellence in the Rio Grande Valley.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1887, As Introduced: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2016	\$0
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from Law Officer Stds & Ed Ac 116
2016	(\$71,762)
2017	(\$71,762)
2018	(\$71,762)
2019	(\$71,762)
2020	(\$71,762)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would establish a regional center for public safety excellence in the Rio Grande Valley. The bill would require South Texas College to administer the regional center in partnership with political subdivisions and participating school districts in the Rio Grande Valley and provides that the headquarters of the regional center would be located at South Texas College.

The bill would require the program or course curriculum at the regional center to satisfy requirements imposed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) for the regional center to operate as a commission-approved training provider. The bill would allow TCOLE to authorize reimbursement for a political subdivision or state agency for expenses incurred by personnel of the entity while attending a training program offered by the regional center. The bill would allow the regional center to solicit and accept gifts and grants from any public or private source and would allow the legislature to appropriate funds for the regional center.

Methodology

Based on information provided by TCOLE, it is assumed the agency would require one Program Specialist II position to implement the requirement of the bill pertaining to reimbursement of training costs incurred by an entity at the regional center. These costs are assumed to be the following: Program Specialist II (\$48,000); other operating expenses (\$2,500); equipment (\$5,000); and benefits (\$16,262). These costs are assumed to come out of the General Revenue-Dedicated Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education Fund No. 116.

It is assumed that there would be a cost to General Revenue from an estimated increase in formula funding for South Texas College due to additional students enrolled in the regional center generating additional contact hours and success points for formula funding. This cost would not be seen until fiscal year 2018, as formula funding is provided to institutions based on student data prior to the biennium to be funded. As such, formula funding in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 will be based on the contact hours and success points of students that are enrolled during fiscal year 2015. However, based on information provided by South Texas College, this analysis assumes the increase in formula funding for the additional students enrolling in classes at the regional center would not be significant.

Local Government Impact

Based on information provided by South Texas College, the institution would require additional funding to implement the provisions of the bill, including funding for construction of new infrastructure and facilities, specialized equipment, additional faculty and personnel, and additional supplies and materials. According to South Texas College, the institution assumes any costs associated with implementing the provisions of the bill would be paid out of institutional bond proceeds, tuition and fees, and local property tax revenue.

Source Agencies: 407 Commission on Law Enforcement, 781 Higher Education
Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: UP, ESi, DEH, ED, JAW