

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 22, 2015

TO: Honorable John Whitmire, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1576 by Hinojosa (relating to the compensatory time and overtime pay for commissioned officers of the Department of Public Safety.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

The bill would provide the Department of Public Safety with the option of compensating its troopers for overtime worked with compensatory leave, rather than payment. It is assumed that compensating officers with compensatory leave rather than payment would spare payroll costs. While it is unknown how often DPS would opt to exercise this new option, presumably the bill would have a positive, if undetermined, fiscal impact.

The bill would amend the Government Code regarding hours of work, compensatory time and overtime pay for certain commissioned law enforcement officers employed by the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

Federal law specifies the conditions and limitations by which an employer may provide compensatory leave in lieu of payment as compensation for overtime worked by employees who are not exempted from the Fair Labor Standards Act. Within these limitations, it is not known how frequently DPS would opt to provide compensation for overtime worked in the form of compensatory leave. It is assumed that compensating officers with compensatory leave rather than payment would result in a reduction to the agency's payroll costs. Therefore, it is presumed DPS would realize payroll savings to the degree the agency opts to provide compensatory leave instead of payment for overtime worked.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 327 Employees Retirement System, 405 Department of Public Safety

LBB Staff: UP, KJo, AI, JAW, EMo