By:  Harris (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 3216

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2021; May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Hughes          X

Birdwell        X

Campbell        X

Hall            X

Lucio           X

Nelson          X

Powell          X

Schwertner      X

Zaffirini       X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to legislative leave for certain peace officers commissioned by the Parks and Wildlife Department.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 11, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 11.0183 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.0183.  DONATION OF ACCRUED COMPENSATORY TIME OR ACCRUED ANNUAL LEAVE FOR LEGISLATIVE PURPOSES. (a) The director shall allow a peace officer commissioned by the department to voluntarily transfer to a legislative leave pool up to eight hours of compensatory time or annual leave per year earned by the peace officer.

(b)  The director or the director's designee shall administer the legislative leave pool.

(c)  The commission shall adopt rules and prescribe procedures relating to the operation of the legislative leave pool.

(d)  The director or the director's designee shall credit the legislative leave pool with the amount of time contributed by a peace officer commissioned by the department and deduct a corresponding amount of time from the peace officer's earned compensatory time or annual leave as if the peace officer had used the time for personal purposes.

(e)  A peace officer commissioned by the department is entitled to use time contributed to the legislative leave pool if the peace officer uses the time for legislative leave on behalf of a law enforcement association:

(1)  related to the peace officer's employment with the department;

(2)  that has at least 300 active or retired members; and

(3)  that is governed by a board of directors.

(f)  The director or the director's designee shall transfer time from the pool to the peace officer and credit the time to the peace officer.

(g)  A peace officer commissioned by the department may only withdraw time from the legislative leave pool in coordination with and with the consent of the president or designee of the law enforcement association described in Subsection (e). A peace officer may not draw more than 80 hours from the pool in a 160-hour work cycle and may not draw more than 480 hours from the pool in a fiscal year.

(h)  A peace officer commissioned by the department shall use time from the legislative leave pool in accordance with rules adopted by the commission.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

\* \* \* \* \*