

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the ineligibility of certain local governments for certain criminal justice grants as a result of budget reductions affecting local law enforcement agencies.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 772.0065 to read as follows:

Sec. 772.0065. INELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT FOLLOWING CERTAIN BUDGET REDUCTIONS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Criminal justice division" means the criminal justice division established under Section 772.006.

(2) "Local government" means a municipality or county.

(b) A local government is ineligible to receive a grant awarded by the criminal justice division if the division determines that:

(1) the local government has adopted a budget for a fiscal year for the sheriff's department or municipal police department, as applicable, that in comparison to the preceding fiscal year reduces the budget of the department by 5 percent or more and the reduction is not due to a similar decrease in the amount of tax revenue collected by the local government; and

(2) the reduction will have a significant, adverse effect on public safety within the applicable county or municipality.

1 (c) A local government that is receiving money under a grant
2 awarded by the criminal justice division shall notify the division
3 of any reduction described by Subsection (b)(1) not later than the
4 15th day after the date the reduction takes effect. At the request
5 of the criminal justice division, the local government shall
6 provide a description of the reduction and any anticipated effects
7 on public safety.

8 (d) The criminal justice division shall require a local
9 government applying for a grant to:

10 (1) disclose whether the most recent budget of the
11 local government constitutes a reduction as described by Subsection
12 (b)(1); and

13 (2) provide a description of the reduction and any
14 anticipated effects on public safety.

15 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
16 with respect to the adoption of a budget by a municipality or county
17 for a fiscal year that begins on or after the effective date of this
18 Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.