

By: Spiller, Sherman, Sr., Dean, Ashby

H.B. No. 626

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the salaries of sheriffs and to state assistance
3 payments to offset the cost of sheriff's salaries in certain
4 counties.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 152, Local Government
7 Code, is amended by adding Sections 152.0715 and 152.0716 to read as
8 follows:

9 Sec. 152.0715. STATEWIDE MINIMUM SALARY OF SHERIFFS.
10 Notwithstanding any other law, the commissioners court of a county
11 shall provide for each fiscal year a salary of at least \$75,000 for
12 the county's sheriff.

13 Sec. 152.0716. STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PAY SALARIES
14 OF SHERIFFS OF CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to
15 a county with a population of 50,000 or less.

16 (b) To serve the state purpose of ensuring professional law
17 enforcement throughout the state, a county is entitled to an
18 assistance payment from the state for each county fiscal year to
19 assist the county in paying the sheriff's salary required by
20 Section 152.0715 as follows:

21 (1) if a county has a population of 25,000 or less, the
22 county is entitled to a payment of \$25,000; and

23 (2) if a county has a population of more than 25,000,
24 the county is entitled to a payment of \$10,000.

1 (c) Not later than the 30th day after the first day of a
2 county's fiscal year, the county must submit an application in the
3 form and manner prescribed by comptroller rule to the comptroller
4 to receive the assistance payment.

5 (d) The comptroller shall remit the applicable assistance
6 payment to which a county is entitled from available state funds not
7 later than the 30th day after the date the comptroller receives the
8 county's application for the assistance payment.

9 (e) The comptroller shall adopt rules necessary to
10 implement this section.

11 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
12 a county fiscal year that begins on or after January 1, 2024.

13 SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 2024, the comptroller
14 of public accounts shall adopt rules as required by Section
15 152.0716(e), Local Government Code, as added by this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.