

By: Allison

H.B. No. 2566

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the number of peace officers required to be employed by a sheriff's department in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 351, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 351.905 to read as follows:

Sec. 351.905. MINIMUM NUMBER OF SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PEACE OFFICERS. (a) This section applies only to a county with a population of more than 1.5 million in which more than 70 percent of the population lives in a single municipality.

(b) The sheriff of a county shall employ and retain at all times at least 1.8 peace officers for every 1,000 residents of the total unincorporated area of the county, as determined by the state demographer in accordance with Section 468.004, Government Code.

SECTION 2. Section 468.004, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 468.004. POWERS AND DUTIES. The state demographer shall:

(1) disseminate demographic and related socioeconomic data to the public, with emphasis on data that may be useful to public policymakers;

(2) provide annual population estimates for all counties and municipalities in the state, including an estimate for the total unincorporated area of the county;

1 (3) provide biennial population projections for the
2 state and all counties of the state;

3 (4) adhere to current standards of practice when
4 determining which racial/ethnic groups to include in estimates and
5 projections;

6 (5) provide information by request which justifies the
7 omission of any particular racial/ethnic group from estimates and
8 projections, including limitations of data and methodology;

9 (6) provide information to the legislature relating to
10 the impact that demographic and socioeconomic changes in the
11 population of the state have on the demand for state services; and

12 (7) evaluate the type and quality of data needed to:

13 (A) adequately monitor demographic and
14 socioeconomic changes in the population of the state; and

15 (B) assess the effectiveness of delivery of state
16 services.

17 SECTION 3. The sheriff of a county to which Section 351.905,
18 Local Government Code, as added by this Act, applies shall comply
19 with the requirement of that section as soon as practicable but not
20 later than September 1, 2028.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.