89R14463 CS-F

By:  Perry S.B. No. 2143

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a county to commission certain individuals as peace officers and establish certain law enforcement agencies.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 352.024 to read as follows:

Sec. 352.024.  AUTHORITY TO COMMISSION CERTAIN FIRE PROTECTION OFFICERS AS PEACE OFFICERS. (a) A county may commission a fire marshal, fire officer, fire inspector, or fire investigator as a peace officer.

(b)  A peace officer commissioned under this section may:

(1)  administer this chapter;

(2)  support fire-related operations or investigations;

(3)  enforce building-related codes, including codes involving hazardous materials; and

(4)  make recommendations involving building safety.

(c)  A peace officer commissioned under this section may not enforce violations of Subtitle C, Title 7, Transportation Code, except as related to the enforcement of this chapter or as authorized by Article 14.03, Code of Criminal Procedure.

SECTION 2.  Chapter 362, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 362.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 362.006.  ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. A county may establish a law enforcement agency only if authorized by the constitution or other law.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.