

By: Orr, Wharton, Jones of Dallas

H.B. No. 1828

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to legislative leave for correctional officers employed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 493, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 493.0075 to read as follows:

Sec. 493.0075. DONATION OF ACCRUED COMPENSATORY TIME OR ACCRUED ANNUAL LEAVE FOR LEGISLATIVE PURPOSES. (a) The executive director shall allow a correctional officer employed 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 correctional officer.

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

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

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

(e) A correctional officer employed by the department is

1 entitled to use time contributed to the legislative leave pool if
2 the correctional officer uses the time for legislative leave on
3 behalf of an association:

4 (1) related to the correctional officer's employment
5 with the department;

6 (2) that has at least 5,000 active or retired members;
7 and

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

9 (f) The executive director or the executive director's
10 designee shall transfer time from the pool to the correctional
11 officer and credit the time to the correctional officer.

12 (g) A correctional officer employed by the department may
13 only withdraw time from the legislative leave pool in coordination
14 with and with the consent of the president or designee of the
15 association described in Subsection (e). A correctional officer
16 may not draw more than 80 hours from the pool in a 160-hour work
17 cycle and may not draw more than 480 hours from the pool in a fiscal
18 year.

19 (h) A correctional officer employed by the department shall
20 use time from the legislative leave pool in accordance with rules
21 adopted by the board.

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.