

By: Hefner

H.B. No. 4264

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creation of a grant program for certain peace officers who hold a master proficiency certificate.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 772.013 to read as follows:

Sec. 772.013. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN PEACE OFFICERS WITH MASTER PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE. (a) In this section:

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

(2) "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of this state or an agency of a political subdivision of this state authorized by law to employ peace officers.

(3) "Peace officer" means a person elected, employed, or appointed as a peace officer under Article 2A.001, Code of Criminal Procedure, or other law.

(b) The criminal justice division shall establish a grant program for the public purpose of fostering the professional development of peace officers employed in this state.

(c) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a person must:

(1) hold a master proficiency certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement under Section 1701.402, Occupations Code;

1 (2) be employed on a full-time basis as a peace officer
2 by a law enforcement agency; and

3 (3) meet any other eligibility criteria established by
4 the criminal justice division.

5 (d) Only the following persons may apply for a grant under
6 this section:

7 (1) a law enforcement agency on behalf of an employee
8 of the agency who meets the eligibility criteria for a grant under
9 this section; or

10 (2) a person who meets the eligibility criteria for a
11 grant under this section with the consent of the person's employing
12 law enforcement agency.

13 (e) The criminal justice division shall award a grant under
14 this section to a law enforcement agency. The law enforcement
15 agency shall use the money only to increase the compensation of the
16 employee who applied for the grant or for whom the agency applied
17 for the grant.

18 (f) The criminal justice division shall establish
19 procedures for:

20 (1) processing grant applications in addition to any
21 other application procedures prescribed by this section;

22 (2) evaluating grant applications; and

23 (3) monitoring the use of a grant awarded under the
24 program and ensuring compliance with any condition of a grant.

25 (g) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the
26 criminal justice division shall award grants under this section in
27 an amount equal to \$6,500 for each award. The criminal justice

1 division may increase the amount of an award in a state fiscal year
2 after the state fiscal year in which the program was established to
3 an amount the value of which is equal to the value of the grant in
4 the previous fiscal year after adjustment for inflation, as
5 calculated by the criminal justice division.

6 (h) The criminal justice division may use any money
7 available for purposes of this section.

8 (i) A grant awarded under this section may not be awarded to
9 the same person more than one time.

10 SECTION 2. The criminal justice division established under
11 Section 772.006, Government Code, may award a grant under Section
12 772.013, Government Code, as added by this Act, only with respect to
13 a master proficiency certificate issued under Section 1701.402,
14 Occupations Code, on or after the effective date of this Act.

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