

By: King

S.B. No. 1329

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to school district police department accreditation,
3 including a grant program to assist departments in becoming
4 accredited.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 403, Government Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 403.0303 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 403.0303. SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT
9 ACCREDITATION GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller shall establish
10 and administer a grant program to provide financial assistance to a
11 school district police department in this state for purposes of
12 becoming accredited as required by the rules adopted under Section
13 1701.171, Occupations Code.

14 (b) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
15 school district police department must have executed a contract
16 with an accrediting entity described by Section 1701.171(a),
17 Occupations Code, and complete an initial assessment by the
18 accrediting entity.

19 (c) Based on the results of the initial assessment completed
20 under Subsection (b), a school district police department may
21 request grant funds for reimbursement of an accreditation fee,
22 staff overtime, or temporary staffing necessary to become
23 accredited.

24 (d) Grant money provided under this section may only be used

1 by a school district police department for the purposes of becoming
2 accredited. A school district police department may not receive
3 more than one grant under this section.

4 (e) The amount of a grant awarded under this section may not
5 exceed \$30,000.

6 (f) The comptroller shall establish:

7 (1) eligibility criteria for grant applicants;

8 (2) grant application procedures;

9 (3) guidelines relating to grant amounts;

10 (4) procedures for evaluating grant applications;

11 (5) procedures for monitoring the use of a grant
12 awarded under the program and ensuring compliance with any
13 conditions of a grant; and

14 (6) procedures for revoking a grant awarded under the
15 program if the school district police department is not accredited
16 within the period specified by the rules adopted under Section
17 1701.171, Occupations Code.

18 (g) Not later than December 1 of each year, the comptroller
19 shall submit to the Legislative Budget Board a report that provides
20 the following information for the preceding state fiscal year:

21 (1) the name of each school district police department
22 that applied for a grant under this section; and

23 (2) the amount of money distributed to each school
24 district police department that received a grant under this
25 section.

26 (h) The comptroller may use any revenue available for
27 purposes of this section.

1 (i) Notwithstanding any other law or rule, beginning
2 September 1, 2031, a school district police department must be
3 accredited as provided by the rules adopted under Section 1701.171,
4 Occupations Code, to be eligible to receive any grant supporting
5 law enforcement operations or equipment acquisition administered
6 by the comptroller other than a grant under this section.

7 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is
8 amended by adding Section 1701.171 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 1701.171. SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT
10 ACCREDITATION. (a) The commission shall adopt rules requiring
11 each school district police department to become accredited and
12 maintain accreditation:

13 (1) through the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law
14 Enforcement Agency Best Practices Accreditation Program;

15 (2) by the Commission on Accreditation for Law
16 Enforcement Agencies, Inc.; or

17 (3) by an association or organization designated by
18 the commission as provided by Subsection (d).

19 (b) The rules adopted under Subsection (a) must require a
20 school district police department that is not already accredited
21 to:

22 (1) execute a contract with an approved accrediting
23 entity not later than September 1, 2029; and

24 (2) become accredited not later than September 1,
25 2031.

26 (c) The commission shall implement a program to assist
27 school district police departments in becoming accredited as

1 required by the rules adopted under Subsection (a).

2 (d) The commission shall periodically review associations
3 and organizations that establish standards of practice for school
4 district police departments and that offer accreditation to
5 departments that meet those standards. On a majority vote of the
6 commission that accreditation of school district police
7 departments in this state by an association or organization would
8 benefit public safety, the commission may designate the association
9 or organization as an accrediting entity for purposes of Subsection
10 (a)(3).

11 (e) A school district police department shall annually
12 report the department's accreditation status, including the
13 applicable accrediting entity described by Subsection (a), to the
14 commission.

15 (f) The commission shall post on the commission's Internet
16 website a list of all school district police departments that are
17 currently accredited by, or under contract with, an accrediting
18 entity described by Subsection (a).

19 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas
20 Commission on Law Enforcement shall adopt the rules required by
21 Section 1701.171, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

22 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the comptroller shall
23 establish the grant program required by Section 403.0303,
24 Government Code, as added by this Act.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.