

By: Stickland

H.B. No. 137

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to grants of appropriated money to certain peace officer organizations.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter L to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER L. GRANTS TO PEACE OFFICER ORGANIZATIONS

Sec. 614.211. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Appropriated money" means money appropriated by the legislature through the General Appropriations Act or other law.

(2) "Peace officer organization" means an association, group, union, lodge, local, or other organization, whether incorporated or unincorporated, in which peace officers participate and that exists wholly or partly to deal with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages and rates of pay, hours of employment, and conditions of work.

(3) "Political committee," "political contribution," and "political expenditure" have the meanings assigned by Section 251.001, Election Code.

(4) "State agency" means:

(A) a department, commission, board, office, or other entity in the executive branch of state government;

(B) the supreme court, the court of criminal

1 appeals, another entity in the judicial branch of state government
2 with statewide authority, or a court of appeals; or

3 (C) a university system or an institution of
4 higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

5 Sec. 614.212. RESTRICTIONS ON GRANT-MAKING. A state agency
6 may not use any money under the agency's control, including
7 appropriated money, to make a grant or other distribution to a peace
8 officer organization if:

9 (1) the organization or an employee of the
10 organization is required to register under Chapter 305;

11 (2) the organization employs a person for the purpose
12 of affecting the outcome of legislation, agency rules, ordinances,
13 or other governmental policies;

14 (3) the organization establishes a political
15 committee or assists a political committee in performing political
16 activities; or

17 (4) the organization makes a political contribution or
18 political expenditure.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.