

**SUBJECT:** Allowing extensions for certain temporary county jailer positions

**COMMITTEE:** County Affairs — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 9 ayes — Neave Criado, Stucky, Gerdes, J. Jones, Orr, Rosenthal, Schatzline, Slaton, Tinderholt  
0 nays

**WITNESSES:** For — Scott Cass, Sheriffs’ Association of Texas; Buddy Mills, Sheriffs’ Association of Texas, President (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jim Allison, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas; David Batton, Harris County Deputies Organization FOP 39; Ray Hunt, HPOU; Bo Stallman, Sheriffs’ Association of Texas; Joe Morris, Texas Game Warden Peace Officer's Association; Dallas Reed, Texas Municipal Police Association; Julie Wheeler, Travis County Commissioners Court)  
  
Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Henry Bohnert)  
  
On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: TJ Vineyard, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement)

**DIGEST:** HB 2183 would allow a sheriff to petition the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) to extend a temporary county jailer appointment for up to six months. The bill also would prohibit anyone who had previously served as a temporary county jailer from being re-appointed at the same county jail on a temporary basis, unless they had originally left the position in good standing. The bill would limit temporary county jail appointments to one year.  
  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2023. TCOLE would be required to adopt any rules necessary to implement the bill as soon as practicable after the effective date.

**SUPPORTERS SAY:** HB 2183 would help to address staff shortages in county jails by authorizing sheriffs to request extensions on temporary jailer positions.

Many temporary jailers work extended hours with limited availability to attend TCOLE trainings required for the position. The bill would add flexibility to the training requirements so that county jails could retain more staff while making sure county jails complied with minimum standards. This would help to address workforce challenges and improve overall safety in county jails.

CRITICS  
SAY:

No concerns identified.