

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1200
By: Menendez (Van de Putte)
State Affairs
4/21/2007
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Historically, labor organizations that represent peace officers provide legal representation, handle grievances, and negotiate with public employers for their members. The organizations also participate in the political process by raising money for political action committees and endorsing candidates. Dues paid by members of the organization primarily fund these activities. Peace officers are required to receive training mandated by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education, which has historically been provided by regional police academies, universities, and law enforcement agencies. Some peace officer organizations have now gone into the business of training law enforcement and have sought and attained funding through grants from state agencies.

H.B. 1200 prohibits a state agency from distributing money under its control to certain peace officer organizations.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 614, Government Code, by adding Subchapter H, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. GRANTS TO PEACE OFFICER ORGANIZATIONS

Sec. 614.151. DEFINITIONS. Defines "appropriated money," "peace officer organization," "political committee," and "state agency."

Sec. 614.152. RESTRICTIONS ON GRANT-MAKING. Prohibits a state agency from using any money under the agency's control, including appropriated money, to make a grant or other distribution to a peace officer organization under certain circumstances.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2007.