

By: Deuell

S.B. No. 489

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of a peace officer employment  
3 opportunity Internet website by the Commission on Law Enforcement  
4 Officer Standards and Education.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 1701.162 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 1701.162. PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
9 INTERNET WEBSITE. (a) From money appropriated to the commission for  
10 any purpose, the commission shall develop, maintain, and promote a  
11 statewide employment Internet website to facilitate:

12 (1) public awareness of peace officer employment  
13 opportunities with state and local law enforcement agencies; and  
14 (2) an exchange of information between individuals  
15 seeking employment as peace officers in this state and state and  
16 local law enforcement agencies seeking applicants for employment as  
17 peace officers.

18 (b) The Internet website must:

19 (1) be accessible to members of the public; and  
20 (2) provide to individuals seeking employment as peace  
21 officers and state and local law enforcement agencies who have  
22 posted employment opportunities on the website an organized means  
23 of exchanging information.

24 (c) The commission shall:

1                   (1) to the extent practicable, verify the accuracy of  
2                   information posted on the Internet website; and  
3                   (2) with the assistance of the Department of  
4                   Information Resources, ensure that data exchanged via the website  
5                   is secure.

6                   (d) The commission shall charge a reasonable fee to a state  
7                   or local law enforcement agency that posts information on the  
8                   Internet website or uses the website in any other manner to exchange  
9                   information with an individual seeking employment as a peace  
10                   officer.

11                   (e) In the absence of sufficient funding to maintain and  
12                   operate the Internet website, the commission may limit or  
13                   discontinue the commission's operation of the Internet website  
14                   under this section.

15                   SECTION 2. The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer  
16                   Standards and Education shall develop, maintain, and promote the  
17                   peace officer employment opportunity Internet website as required  
18                   by Section 1701.162, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not  
19                   later than January 1, 2010.

20                   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
21                   a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
22                   provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
23                   Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
24                   Act takes effect September 1, 2009.