BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 770 By: Davis, Yvonne (West) Intergovernmental Relations 5/11/1999 Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, a constable's scope of power is not limited to the jurisdiction in which the constable is elected. There have been complaints from municipalities regarding constables crossing into neighboring counties and exercising power that is beyond the scope of their duties. H.B. 770 would establish conditions regarding a request for assistance from a municipality before a constable can go beyond the jurisdiction to which the constable was elected.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 770 establishes conditions regarding a municipaly's request of assistance from a constable.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 341Z, Local Government Code, by adding Section 341.906, as follows:

Sec. 341.906. ASSISTANCE FROM CONSTABLES. Requires a municipality to request in writing, to protect the public interest, assistance from any constables in a county in which any part of the municipality is located. Requires a municipality to request the constable's assistance in performing any function that the municipality is authorized to perform.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause. Effective date: upon passage.