

Issue Docket

Conference Committee on House Bill 1

2024-25 General Appropriations Bill

Article VIII – Regulatory

360 STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-1	VIII-1		
C.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 2,462,574	\$ 1,430,040	\$ 1,032,534	<p>1) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$1,032,534 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.</p> <p>See Cross-Article Issue.</p>

510 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-4	VIII-4		
Cross-Article Issues				<p>1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$33,934 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.</p> <p>2) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$366,162 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.</p>
A.1.1 LICENSING	\$ 5,761,906	\$ 5,795,840	\$ 33,934	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
B.1.1 ENFORCEMENT	\$ 3,930,858	\$ 3,992,286	\$ 61,428	Senate provides \$61,428 in General Revenue for Attorney salary increases.
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 970,642	\$ 604,480	\$ 366,162	See Cross-Article Issue 2.

508 BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation	
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-6	VIII-6	SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$5,118 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.	
A.1.1 LICENSING SYSTEM	\$ 601,303	\$ 603,861		\$ 2,558	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
A.2.1 ENFORCEMENT	\$ 1,191,255	\$ 1,193,815		\$ 2,560	See Cross-Article Issue 1.

504 TEXAS STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-7	VIII-7		
Cross-Article Issue			SENATE	1) Additional 5% Salary Increase. House provides \$308,910 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
Cross-Strategy Issue			SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$33,650 in General Revenue for the agency's share of the Health Professions Council exceptional items.
A.1.1 COMPLAINT RESOLUTION	\$ 6,392,309	\$ 6,418,893	\$ 26,584	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
A.1.2 PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	\$ 321,668	\$ 264,480	\$ 57,188	House provides \$57,188 in General Revenue for increased vendor costs of the Peer Assistance Program.
A.2.1 LICENSURE/REGISTRATION/CERT	\$ 1,847,289	\$ 1,854,355	\$ 7,066	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
C.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 800,011	\$ 491,101	\$ 308,910	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase	\$18,194 In General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy C.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

513 FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-9	VIII-9		
A.1.1 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS	\$ 848,060	\$ 857,866	\$ 9,806	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$9,806 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases. See Cross-Article Issue.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions Staff Salary Increase		\$3,454 In General Revenue	ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy C.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

481 BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-11	VIII-11		
			SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase. Senate provides \$6,010 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.
A.1.3 INFORMATIONAL SERVICES	\$ 581,133	\$ 587,143	\$ 6,010	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
B.1.1 ENFORCEMENT	\$ 393,552	\$ 303,552	\$ 90,000	House provides \$180,000 in General Revenue to fund two vacant Program Specialist FTEs. Senate provides \$90,000 in General Revenue to fund one vacant Program Specialist FTE.

364 HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-13	VIII-13		
Cross-Article Issues				<p>1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$207,890 in General Revenue to member agencies to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.</p> <p>2) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$63,004 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.</p>
A.1.1 AGENCY COORDINATION AND SUPPORT	\$ 2,952,088	\$ 3,159,978	\$ 207,890	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
B.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 169,664	\$ 106,660	\$ 63,004	See Cross-Article Issue 2.

448 OFFICE OF INJURED EMPLOYEE COUNSEL

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-14	VIII-14		
			SENATE	1) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$893,162 in General Revenue-Dedicated Texas Department of Insurance Operating Fund Account No. 36 for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
A.1.1 OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM	\$ 9,468,022	\$ 10,943,022	\$ 1,475,000	Senate provides \$1,475,000 in General Revenue-Dedicated Texas Department of Insurance Operating Fund Account No. 36 for targeted salary adjustments related to Ombudsmen reclassification.
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 2,223,691	\$ 1,330,529	\$ 893,162	See Cross-Article Issue #1.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions Staff Salary Increase	\$74,970 In General Revenue-Dedicated		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy D.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

454 DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
B.1.1 INDUSTRY SOLVENCY REGULATION	VIII-16 \$ 11,470,886	VIII-16 \$ 11,770,886	\$ 300,000	Senate provides \$300,000 in General Revenue-Dedicated Texas Department of Insurance Operating Fund Account No. 36 for a captive insurance specialist.
Appropriation: Agent and Adjuster Licensing Fee Collections.	VIII-21 Rider #14 Rider Packet page VIII-1	VIII-21 Rider #14 Rider Packet page VIII-1		House allocates \$300,000 by rider for a captive insurance specialist out of funds appropriated to the agency.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				House provides unlimited transfer authority for amounts appropriated by the rider to other strategies for the purpose of modernizing agency technology and operations.
Staff Salary Increase				Senate requires Legislative Budget Board approval for any funds transfers from Strategy A.1.1, Operations, Education, and Outreach, to other strategies.
	\$135,474 In General Revenue-Dedicated		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy G.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

359 OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSURANCE COUNSEL

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-22	VIII-23	ADOPT	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$4,796 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.
A.1.1 PARTICIPATE IN RATES/RULES/FORMS	\$ 2,592,549	\$ 2,597,345		\$ 4,796

452 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-24	VIII-24		
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	581.2	570.2		
	577.2			
Cross-Article Issue			SENATE	1) Additional 5% Salary Increase. House provides \$3,687,692 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
Cross Strategy Issue			\$1,372,952 Adopted in General Revenue and 10.0 FTEs	1) Anti-Trafficking Unit. Senate provides \$663,120 in General Revenue and an additional 6.0 FTEs for expansion of the Anti-Trafficking Unit. House provides \$2,082,783 in General Revenue and an additional 14.0 FTEs for the same purpose.
A.1.1 LICENSE, REGISTER AND CERTIFY	\$ 10,312,274	\$ 10,197,332	\$ 114,942	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
	\$ 10,254,823			
A.1.3 EXAMINATIONS/CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$ 5,066,749	\$ 3,764,749	\$ 1,302,000	House provides \$1,302,000 in General Revenue Dedicated Account No. 501 to further fund the Motorcycle Operator Training and Safety Program.
	\$ 4,415,749		\$651,000 Adopted in General Revenue	
B.1.1 CONDUCT INSPECTIONS	\$ 29,991,223	\$ 28,528,866	\$ 1,462,357	
	\$ 29,521,763		HOUSE	a. See Cross-Strategy Issue 1. b. House provides \$523,436 in General Revenue and an additional 3.0 FTEs to administer the Mold Assessors and Remediators Program.
B.1.3 RESOLVE COMPLAINTS	\$ 10,417,598	\$ 10,111,996	\$ 305,602	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
	\$ 10,264,797			

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
C.1.1 CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 8,831,844 \$ 8,801,745	\$ 8,771,646	\$ 60,198	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
C.1.2 INFORMATION RESOURCES	\$ 44,223,970	\$ 44,753,198	\$ 529,228	Senate provides \$529,228 in General Revenue for salary raises for IT staff.
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 8,999,886	\$ 5,312,194	\$ 3,687,692	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
Contingent Appropriation: Combative Sports Regulation	VIII-27 Rider #5 Rider Packet page VIII-2	VIII-27 Rider #5 Rider Packet page VIII-2		House provides removal of the revenue requirement before the agency can access the contingent appropriation for event with ticket sales over \$2.0 million.
Reimbursement of Advisory Committee Members for Travel Expenses.	VIII-27 Rider #8 Rider Packet page VIII-2	VIII-27 Rider #8 Rider Packet page VIII-2	HOUSE AS AMENDED to make contingent on enactment of Senate Bill 1213.	House includes members of the Mold Assessors and Remediators Advisory Board as eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Comprehensive Licensing System	ADOPT			Conference Committee adds a new rider designating \$32,900,000 in General Revenue in Strategy C.1.2, Information Resources, for a comprehensive licensing system upgrade as not being subject to Appropriations Limited to Revenue Collection requirements.

503 TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	VIII-28 293.5	VIII-28 229.5 260.0		
Cross-Article Issues			SENATE	<p>1) Additional 5% Salary Increase. House provides \$1,254,640 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.</p> <p>2) Health Professions Council Salary Increase. Senate provides \$5,284 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.</p>
Cross-Strategy Issues			<p>HOUSE Adopt Half</p> <p>HOUSE</p> <p>SENATE</p> <p>SENATE</p>	<p>1) Increased Workload. House provides \$10,010,400 in General Revenue and an additional 61.0 FTEs to address increased agency workload.</p> <p>2) Cybersecurity Update. House provides \$19,855 in General Revenue and \$10,450 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 for cybersecurity upgrades to hardware, software, and the agency's network.</p> <p>3) Professional Development. House provides \$786,354 in General Revenue, \$17,450 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147, and an additional 3.0 FTEs to support professional development and leadership training.</p> <p>4) Annual Leave Payouts. House provides \$570,000 in General Revenue and \$30,000 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 to be used for annual leave payouts.</p>

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
			HOUSE	<p>5) Inflation Adjustment. Senate provides \$4,266,988 in General Revenue and \$226,712 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 for an inflation adjustment to the operating budget of the agency.</p> <p>House provides \$1,753,850 in General Revenue and \$98,950 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 for the same purpose.</p>
			SENATE	<p>6) Salary Increases. Senate provides \$1,010,750 in General Revenue and \$63,366 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 for salary increases for current staff to align with market rate salaries.</p>
			Adopt \$442,950 in General Revenue and \$7,050 in GR-D 5147	<p>7) Network Upgrade. Senate provides \$345,450 in General Revenue and \$7,050 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 to increase network bandwidth and storage capabilities.</p>
			SENATE	<p>8) Agency Website. Senate provides \$392,000 in General Revenue and \$8,000 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 to update the agency website and improve customer service and accessibility.</p>
			SENATE	<p>9) E-Documents System. Senate provides \$147,000 in General Revenue and \$3,000 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 to manage electronic documents and an electronic signature system.</p>
			SENATE	<p>10) Digital Applications. Senate provides \$294,000 in General Revenue and \$6,000 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 to develop digital and web-based applications to improve customer service.</p>

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
			SENATE	11) Physical Records Scanning. Senate provides \$416,500 in General Revenue and \$8,500 in General Revenue Dedicated Account 5147 for the processing and scanning of physical records to instead store them electronically.
A.1.1 LICENSING	\$ 11,507,133	\$ 11,084,706	\$ 422,427	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
		\$ 11,189,659		
B.1.1 ENFORCEMENT	\$ 22,087,886	\$ 19,955,345	\$ 2,132,541	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
		\$ 20,850,973		
B.1.2 PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAM	\$ 1,436,324	\$ 1,602,102	\$ 165,778	See Cross-Strategy Issues 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
		\$ 1,484,790		
B.2.1 PUBLIC EDUCATION	\$ 1,056,289	\$ 903,402	\$ 152,887	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
		\$ 979,927		
C.1.1 INDIRECT ADMIN	\$ 3,082,232	\$ 2,014,384	\$ 1,067,848	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11; and Cross-Article Issue 2
		\$ 2,475,155		
C.1.2 INDIRECT ADMIN	\$ 6,608,213	\$ 4,121,429	\$ 2,486,784	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
		\$ 5,192,969		
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 3,390,014	\$ 2,135,374	\$ 1,254,640	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
		\$ 2,135,374		
Appropriation for Retirement Payments	VIII-31 Rider #5 Rider Packet page VIII-4			House provides a rider restricting the funds appropriated for annual leave payouts to be used for only that purpose.
Unexpended Balance Appropriation: Texas Physician Health Program		VIII-32 Rider #5 Rider Packet page VIII-4		Senate provides a rider granting funds appropriated to fund the Texas Physicians Health Program in Strategy B.1.2 unexpended balance authority within the biennium.

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase	\$41,754 In General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy D.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

507 TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-31	VIII-32		
Cross-Article Issues				<p>1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$4,782 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.</p> <p>2) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$882,516 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.</p>
A.1.1 LICENSING	\$ 14,914,091	\$ 14,918,873	\$ 4,782	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 2,213,705	\$ 1,331,189	\$ 882,516	See Cross-Article Issue 2.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase		\$18,614 in General Revenue	ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy D.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.
Regulatory Response		\$850,000 in General Revenue	ADOPT	Conference Committee creates a new strategy, E.1.1, Regulatory Response, and appropriates \$425,000 in General Revenue each fiscal year to this new strategy, and increases Full-Time-Equivalent positions by 6.0 in fiscal year 2024 and 3.0 positions in fiscal year 2025.
Regulatory Response Rider			ADOPT	Conference Committee adds a rider directing \$425,000 in General Revenue in new Strategy E.1.1, Regulatory Response, for nursing regulation contingent on a finding of fact by the Board of Nursing that additional resources are needed to address issues within the finding of fact that does not receive a written disapproval by either the Office of the Governor or the Legislative Budget Board.

514 OPTOMETRY BOARD

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Cross-Article Issue	VIII-35	VIII-35		
A.1.1 LICENSURE AND ENFORCEMENT	\$ 713,392	\$ 721,020	\$ 7,628	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$7,628 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases. See Cross-Article Issue.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions Staff Salary Increase		\$3,184 In General Revenue	ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy B.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

515 BOARD OF PHARMACY

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-36	VIII-36		
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	120.0	110.0		See Cross-Strategy Issue #2.
	117.0			
Cross-Article Issues				
			SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$60,232 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.
Cross-Strategy Issues				
			ADOPT \$226,412 for staff vacancy funding and \$120,000 for legal assistant salary raises.	1) Compensation House provides \$3,094,303 in General Revenue for staff salaries and vacancies. Senate provides \$120,000 in General Revenue for legal assistant salary raises.
			HOUSE AS AMENDED	2) New positions House provides \$1,657,852 in General Revenue for an additional 10.0 FTEs: (1) Government Relations Specialist, (1) Programmer, (1) HR Specialist, (1) Data Officer, (1) Accountant, (3) Program Specialist, (1) Pharmacist, (1) Pharmacy Technician. Conference Committee adopts \$1,075,568 in General Revenue with 7.0 FTEs for the following new positions: 1.0 Data Officer, 1.0 Accountant, 3.0 Program Specialists, 1.0 Pharmacist, and 1.0 Pharmacy Technician.
A.1.1 LICENSING	\$ 2,339,594	\$ 2,118,278	\$ 221,316	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1 and Cross-Article Issue 1.
		\$ 2,133,091		
B.1.1 ENFORCEMENT	\$ 13,261,458	\$ 10,478,248	\$ 2,783,210	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
		\$ 11,412,294		
B.1.3 PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM	\$ 12,779,459	\$ 12,255,120	\$ 524,339	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
		\$ 12,488,241		
C.1.1 LICENSING - INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION	\$ 402,882	\$ 256,472	\$ 146,410	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
C.1.2 ENFORCEMENT-INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,406,568	\$ 1,509,920	\$ 896,648	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
		\$ 1,629,920		
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase	\$9,390 In General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy D.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

533 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF PHYSICAL THERAPY & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-39	VIII-39		
Cross-Article Issue			SENATE	1) Additional 5% Salary Increase House provides \$116,496 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
Cross-Strategy Issue			SENATE	1) Salary Increases Senate provides \$67,007 in General Revenue for salary raises to improve recruitment and retention.
A.1.1 OPERATE LICENSING SYSTEM	\$ 1,885,888	\$ 1,923,511	\$ 37,623	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
B.1.1 ADMINISTER ENFORCEMENT	\$ 1,096,865	\$ 1,126,249	\$ 29,384	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
D.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 287,189	\$ 170,693	\$ 116,496	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase	\$11,074 In General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy D.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.

456 BOARD OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-40	VIII-40		
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	47.0	51.0		
Cross-Article Issue			SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$19,778 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases.
Cross Strategy Issue			SENATE	1) Additional Staffing Senate provides \$277,183 in General Revenue and 2.0 FTEs for administrative hearing support and criminal background checks.
A.1.1 EXAMINE AND LICENSE PLUMBERS	\$ 2,678,015	\$ 3,104,814	\$ 426,799	a. See Cross-Strategy Issue 1. b. Senate provides \$331,171 in General Revenue and 2.0 FTEs to improve and expand the statewide exam centers.
A.1.3 INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT	\$ 2,434,478	\$ 2,616,033	\$ 181,555	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
B.1.1 INDIRECT ADMIN - EXAM/LICENSE	\$ 469,676	\$ 489,454	\$ 19,778	See Cross-Article Issue 1.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions				
Staff Salary Increase	\$9,654 In General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy C.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually.
Lease Increase	\$274,805 in General Revenue		ADOPT	Conference Committee adds funding in multiple strategies for increases in the lease cost of the agency's headquarters.

476 RACING COMMISSION

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	VIII-42 96.0	VIII-42 39.3		House provides an additional 56.7 FTEs for direct regulatory and indirect administrative functions of the agency. See strategy differences below.
	57.3			
A.1.1 MODERNIZE LICENSING SERVICES	\$ 1,821,764	\$ 1,246,868	\$ 574,896	House provides \$574,896 in GR-Dedicated for an additional 8.0 FTEs in licensing.
	\$ 1,534,316			
B.1.1 DETER, INVESTIGATE, AND ADJUDICATE	\$ 2,435,410	\$ 1,358,308	\$ 1,077,102	House provides \$1,077,102 in GR-Dedicated for an additional 10.0 FTEs for investigations and enforcement.
	\$ 1,896,859			
B.1.2 WAGERING INTEGRITY AND SECURITY	\$ 1,300,104	\$ 561,732	\$ 738,372	House provides \$738,372 in GR-Dedicated for an additional 8.0 FTEs for pari-mutuel wagering oversight.
	\$ 930,918			
B.1.3 PREVENT INJURIES/EMERGENCY RESPONSE	\$ 1,576,032	\$ 679,154	\$ 896,878	House provides \$896,878 in GR-Dedicated for an additional 10.0 FTEs for injury prevention and medical response.
	\$ 1,127,593			
B.1.4 ADMINISTER DRUG TESTS	\$ 5,910,724	\$ 394,654	\$ 5,516,070	House provides \$5,516,070 in General Revenue to fund an equine drug testing, emergency treatment testing, and necropsy testing program at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory.
	\$ 3,152,689			
C.1.1 CENTRAL ADMIN & OTHER SUPPORT SVCS	\$ 5,036,766	\$ 1,566,416	\$ 3,470,350	

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
			<p style="text-align: center;">SENATE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOUSE</p>	<p>a. House provides \$2,233,670 in General Revenue for an additional 20.7 FTEs for central administration and other support services.</p> <p>b. House provides \$1,236,680 in GR-Dedicated for a statutory-required 6.75 interest payment on General Revenue appropriations for enforcement of the Texas Racing Act.</p>
Clothing and Equipment Provisions	<p style="text-align: right;">\$ 2,803,096</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VIII-45, Rider #6 Rider Packet page VIII-5</p>			<p>House authorizes appropriation of additional GR-Dedicated revenue from licensing fees collected above the Comptroller's Biennial Revenue Estimate to provide a \$1,200 clothing and \$500 cleaning allowance for commissioned officers and \$1,200 clothing and equipment allowance for employees assigned to work in the veterinary or laboratory test barn or stable areas of a racetrack.</p>
Moving Expenses	<p style="text-align: center;">VIII-45, Rider #8 Rider Packet page VIII-5</p>			<p>House authorizes use of appropriated funds to pay costs of moving the household goods and effects of an employee of the Racing Commission who is transferred from one designated field office or headquarters to another so long as the Racing Commission determines that the best interests of the State will be served by such transfer.</p>
Horseracing Economic Impact Study	<p style="text-align: center;">VIII-46, Rider #10 Rider Packet page VIII-5</p>			<p>House authorizes the use of \$75,000 to conduct an economic impact study to determine the statewide financial impact of horseracing.</p>
State Contribution to Group Insurance for Retired Employees of the Racing Commission	<p style="text-align: center;">VIII-46, Rider #11 Rider Packet page VIII-5</p>			<p>House specifies that the state contribution to group health insurance coverage for retired employees of the Racing Commission is to be paid from the General Revenue Fund.</p>

312 SECURITIES BOARD

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-46	VIII-45		
Cross-Article Issue			SENATE	1) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$692,460 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
Cross-Strategy Issues			SENATE	1) Salary Supplementation Senate provides \$1,466,289 in General Revenue for merit-based salary increases and supplementing salaries of vacant positions.
			SENATE	2) Annual Leave Payouts. House provides \$370,339 in General Revenue for annual leave payouts.
A.1.1 LAW ENFORCEMENT	\$ 6,337,392	\$ 6,824,706	\$ 487,314	
			SENATE	a. See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
			HOUSE	b. Senate provides \$140,000 in General Revenue for blockchain analysis software.
		\$ 6,684,706		
A.2.1 SECURITIES REGISTRATION	\$ 936,693	\$ 971,125	\$ 34,432	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
A.3.1 DEALER REGISTRATION	\$ 908,191	\$ 968,605	\$ 60,414	See Cross-Strategy Issue 1.
A.4.1 INSPECT RECORDS	\$ 4,149,342	\$ 4,309,470	\$ 160,128	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
B.1.1 CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 3,328,830	\$ 3,865,536	\$ 536,706	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
B.1.2 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$ 1,078,562	\$ 1,035,518	\$ 43,044	See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
C.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 1,662,942	\$ 970,482	\$ 692,460	See Cross-Article Issue 1.

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Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	VIII-48 267.0	VIII-48 273.0		
A.1.1 MARKET COMPETITION	\$ 20,693,738	\$ 21,618,738	ADOPT SENATE Amounts in SB 30 with General Revenue	<p>a. Senate provides \$35,000 in funding for a vehicle to support statewide travel for the Energy Efficiency Plan and Outreach Team.</p> <p>b. Senate provides \$890,000 for 6.0 additional FTEs to direct the Public Utility Commission to comprehensively review its water and wastewater rules, processes, and guidance documents; to identify and address areas for improvement; to develop a plan to prioritize improving its case data collection and analysis, and to update its policy guiding the agency's rule review process to ensure identified deficiencies in the rules are addressed.</p>
C.1.2 INFORMATION RESOURCES	\$ 1,487,493	\$ 2,511,493	\$ 1,024,000	Senate provides \$1,024,000 in funding for IT projects.
Enhanced Analytics Reporting		VIII-50 Rider 5 Rider Packet page VIII-6		Senate requires the Public Utility Commission to report to the Legislative Budget Board, the Sunset Advisory Commission, and the Legislature on the activities and findings of the agency's enhanced analytics capabilities by December 1 of each year.

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Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
No Issues	VIII-51	VIII-51		

578 BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
	VIII-53	VIII-53		
Number of Full-Time-Equivalents (FTEs)	29.0	27.0	HOUSE	House provides an additional 2.0 FTEs for one Veterinarian and one Attorney.
Cross-Article Issues			SENATE	1) Health Professions Council Salary Increase Senate provides \$8,742 in General Revenue to be transferred via Interagency Contract to the Health Professions Council for staff salary increases
			SENATE	2) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House provides \$119,264 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for agency staff.
Cross-Strategy Issues			HOUSE	1) Career Ladder House provides \$100,000 in General Revenue for professional development.
			HOUSE	2) Vacant Positions House provides \$374,000 in General Revenue for vacant position funding.
A.1.1 OPERATE LICENSURE SYSTEM	\$ 1,199,324	\$ 971,066	\$ 228,258	See Cross-Article Issue 1. See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
	\$ 1,208,066			
A.2.1 COMPLAINTS AND ACTION	\$ 3,885,362	\$ 3,257,582	\$ 627,780	House provides \$206,000 in General Revenue for one additional Veterinarian FTE. House provides \$184,780 in General Revenue for one additional Attorney FTE. See Cross-Strategy Issues 1 and 2.
A.2.2 PEER ASSISTANCE	\$ 171,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 81,000	House provides \$81,000 in General Revenue for Peer Assistance costs.
C.1.1 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 324,491	\$ 205,227	\$ 119,264	See Cross-Article Issue 2.

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Contingency on SB 1414/HB 1560.		VII-54, Rider #3 Rider Packet page VIII-7		Senate rider makes funding for exceptional items contingent on the continuation of the agency.
State Office of Administrative Hearings Cases.		VII-54, Rider #4 Rider Packet page VIII-7		Senate rider directs \$50,000 in General Revenue to be used for case preparation associated with SOAH cases.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions Staff Salary Increase Database Increase	 \$6,476 In General Revenue \$445,720 In General Revenue		 ADOPT	 Conference Committee adds funding in Strategy C.1.1, Salary Adjustments, for salary increases for staff compensated at or below \$40,000 annually. Conference Committee adds \$222,860 in Strategy A.1.1, Operate Licensure System, and \$222,860 in Strategy A.2.1, Complaints and Action, for costs for a new data system with capital budget authority.

S08 SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO ALL REGULATORY AGENCIES

Item	House 2024-25	Senate 2024-25	Biennial Difference	Explanation
Additonal Five Percent Salary Increase for Specified Agencies.	VIII-55 VIII-59, Rider #8 Rider Packet page VIII-8	VIII-55		1) Additional 5 Percent Salary Increase House includes a new informational section that identifies \$9,416,840 in General Revenue for a 5% across-the-board salary increase for certain agency staff that is independent of the salary increase provided by Article IX, Section 17.18.
Conference Committee Revisions and Additions			<p align="center">ADOPT</p>	Conference Committee adopts a new section that identifies \$332,238 in General Revenue for salary increases for certain agency staff with compensation of \$40,000 or less that is independent of the salary increase provided by Article IX, Section 17.18.

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Proposed Funding and Rider
Reimbursement of Advisory Committee Members for Travel Expenses.

Prepared by LBB Staff, 5/4/2023

Overview

The amended rider would add the Mold Assessors and Remediators Advisory Board to the list of advisory committees whose members can be eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses contingent on enactment of Senate Bill 1213, which would establish the Mold Assessors and Remediators Advisory Board.

Required Action

a) On page VIII-30 of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation bill pattern, see the following rider:

8. **Reimbursement of Advisory Committee Members for Travel Expenses.**
Pursuant to Government Code §Section 2110.004, reimbursement of expenses for advisory committee members, out of funds appropriated above, is limited to the following advisory committees: Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors Advisory Board; Advisory Board of Athletic Trainers; Architectural Barriers Advisory Committee; Auctioneer Advisory Board; Barbering and Cosmetology Advisory Board; Advisory Board on Barbering; Behavior Analysts Advisory Board; Board of Boiler Rules; Combative Sports Advisory Board; Code Enforcement Advisory Board; Advisory Board on Cosmetology; Dietitians Advisory Board; Driver Training and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee; Dyslexia Therapists and Practitioners Advisory Committee; Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board; Elevator Advisory Board; Hearing Instrument Fitters and Dispensers Advisory Board; Texas Industrial Building Code Council; Licensed Breeders Advisory Committee; Massage Therapy Advisory Board; Midwives Advisory Board; Motor Fuel Metering and Quality Advisory Board; Motorcycle Safety Advisory Board; Orthotists and Prosthetists Advisory Board; Podiatric Medical Examiners Advisory Board; Polygraph Advisory Committee; Property Tax Consultants Advisory Council; Registered Sanitarian Advisory Committee; Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist Advisory Board; Texas Tax Professional Advisory Committee; Towing and Storage Advisory Board; Used Automotive Parts Recycling Advisory Board; Water Well Drillers Advisory Council; and Weather Modification Advisory Committee.

Contingent on the enactment of Senate Bill 1213, Eighty-Eighth Legislature, 2023, the Mold Assessors and Remediators Advisory Board is included as an advisory committee whose members are eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses.

By: _____

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Proposed Funding and Rider
Appropriations Limited to Revenue Collections Exemption for Database

Prepared by LBB Staff, 5/10/2023

Overview

The proposed rider would exempt \$32.9 million dollars in General Revenue Funds appropriated fiscal year 2024 from the agency’s statutory requirement to generate sufficient revenue to cover their appropriations.

Required Action

On page VIII-31 of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation bill pattern, add the following rider:

_____.
Modern and Comprehensive Licensing System. Notwithstanding Article VIII, Special Provisions Relating to all Regulatory Agencies, Sec. 2, Appropriations Limited to Revenue Collections, out of funds appropriated above to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, \$32,900,000 for fiscal year 2024 from General Revenue shall be used to develop a cloud-based, standardized licensing platform.

By: _____

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Proposed Funding and Rider

Motorcycle Operator Safety and Training

Prepared by LBB Staff, 5/4/2023

Overview

The amended rider would increase the designated amounts to be transferred to Texas A&M Engineering Service and Texas A&M Transportation Institute via Interagency Contracts for their responsibilities in administering the Motorcycle Operator Safety and Training Program to reflect costs associated with an increase of four additional full-time-equivalent positions.

Required Action

On page VIII-31 of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation bill pattern in House Bill 1, House Engrrossment, Eighty-eighth Legislature, amend the following rider:

___13___. **Motorcycle Operator Safety and Training.** Amounts appropriated above in Strategy A.1.1, Issue Licenses, Registrations, & Certificates to Qualified Individuals; Strategy A.1.3, Administer Exams to Applicants; Strategy A.1.4, Provide Customer Service; and Strategy C.1.3, Other Support Services, together include a total of ~~\$201,882~~\$256,441 each fiscal year from the Motorcycle Education Account No. 501 for transfer to the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service to be used for the development and administration of a motorcycle operator training and safety instruction program, and a total of ~~\$235,000~~\$287,500 from the Motorcycle Education Account No. 501 each fiscal year for transfer to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute to be used for motorcycle safety research, advocacy, and education..

Board of Nursing, Article VIII
Proposed Funding and Rider
Regulatory Response

Prepared by LBB Staff, 3/7/2023

Overview

Increase General Revenue funding by \$425,000 each fiscal year with authority for an additional 6.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions in fiscal year 2024 and 3.0 FTE positions in fiscal year 2025 and prepare a rider making these funds and positions contingent on submission of a finding of fact by the Texas Board of Nursing to the Legislative Budget Board and the Office of the Governor and if neither of these offices issues a written disapproval to this finding of fact. These appropriations may only be used by the Texas Board of Nursing to address the finding of fact.

Required Action

1. On page VIII-32 of the Board of Nursing bill pattern in House Bill 1, House Engrossment, Eighty-eighth Legislature, create a new strategy, E.1.1, Regulatory Response.
2. On page VIII-32 of the Board of Nursing bill pattern in House Bill 1, House Engrossment, Eighty-eighth Legislature, increase General Revenue appropriations in Strategy E.1.1, Regulatory Response, in the amounts of \$425,000 each fiscal year and increase Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions by 6.0 FTEs in fiscal year 2024 and 3.0 FTEs in fiscal year 2025.

3. On page VIII-34 of the Board of Nursing bill pattern in House Bill 1, House Engrossment, Eighty-eighth Legislature, add the following new rider.
Regulatory Response. Amounts appropriated above to the Texas Board of Nursing include an amount not to exceed \$425,000 each fiscal year in General Revenue in Strategy E.1.1, Contingency Regulatory Response, and 6.0 Full-Time-Equivalents (FTE) positions in fiscal year 2024 and 3.0 FTE positions in fiscal year 2025 contingent upon a finding of fact by the Texas Board of Nursing that additional resources are needed for the regulation of licensed vocational nurses, registered nurses, and advanced practice nurses. These amounts are to be expended by the agency to address issues identified in the finding of fact.

None of the funds appropriated in Strategy E.1.1, Contingency Regulatory Response, above may be expended and none of the 6.0 Full-Time-Equivalents (FTE) positions in fiscal year 2024 and 3.0 FTEs in fiscal year 2025 included above in the "Number of Full Time-Equivalents (FTE)" may be used by the Texas Board of Nursing unless:

- (1) The Texas Board of Nursing files a written copy of the finding of fact referenced above with the Office of the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board; and
- (2) neither the Office of the Governor nor the Legislative Budget Board issues a written disapproval not later than:
 - a. the 10th business day after the date the staff of the Legislative Budget Board concludes its reviews of findings of fact and forwards those findings of fact along with the conclusions or comments of the Legislative Budget Board staff to the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Speaker of the House, and Lieutenant Governor; and

b. the 10th business day of the receipt of the finding of fact by the Governor.

The Texas Board of Nursing, upon completion of necessary actions to assess or increase additional fees in the amount of \$425,000 each fiscal year in excess of the \$14,772,680 each fiscal year (Object Code 3560), contained in the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Biennial Revenue Estimate for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, shall furnish copies of the Board's minutes and other information supporting the estimated revenue to be generated under the revised fee structure to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Comptroller shall assess whether the information is sufficient to support the projection of increased revenues and issues a finding of fact to that effect.

It is the intent of the Legislature that these funds not be included in base level funding requests for the fiscal year 2026-27 biennium.

By: _____

Article VIII

**Special Provisions Relating to All Regulatory Agencies
Proposed Three Percent Salary Increase for Certain Employees of Certain Agencies**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 05/05/2023

Overview

The proposed new section would identify amounts appropriated within certain Article VIII agency bill patterns for a salary increase of either \$1,000 per year, or a 3.0 percent salary increase, and exempt those amounts from Appropriations Limited to Revenue Collection requirements.

Required Action

Add the following new section to Special Provisions Relating to All Regulatory Agencies, Article VIII, General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 8. Additional Three Percent Salary Increase for Certain Employees of Specified Agencies.

(a) In this section, "specified agencies' salary increase" means:

- (1) an increase in monthly salary effective September 1, 2023, for the employees of the agencies listed under Subsection (b) earning a monthly salary of \$3,333.33 or less during the month of September, 2023 (annualized to an annual salary of \$40,000 or less) consisting of a 3.0 percent increase, with a minimum of \$83.33 per month (annualized to equal a minimum of \$1,000 per annum) increase, in salary; and
- (2) any related employee benefits costs associated with the specified agencies salary increase described by Subsection (a)(1), including contributions required by Article IX, Sections 17.03 and 17.06.

(b) Amounts appropriated elsewhere in this Act in an individual "salary adjustments" strategy item located within each of the following state agencies' bill patterns include the following amounts from the following sources which are to be used for the specified agencies' salary increase described by this section:

- (1) Texas State Board of Dental Examiners, \$18,194 from the general revenue fund;
- (2) Funeral Services Commission, \$3,454 from the general revenue fund;
- (3) Department of Insurance, \$135,474 from the general revenue-dedicated account Texas Department of Insurance Operating Fund Account No. 0036;
- (4) Office of Injured Employee Counsel, \$74,970 from the general revenue-dedicated account Texas Department of Insurance Operating Fund Account No. 0036;
- (5) Texas Medical Board, \$41,754 from the general revenue fund;
- (6) Texas Board of Nursing, \$18,614 from the general revenue fund;
- (7) Optometry Board, \$3,184 from the general revenue fund;
- (8) Board of Pharmacy, \$9,390 from the general revenue fund;
- (9) Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners, \$111,074 from the general revenue fund;
- (10) Board of Plumbing Examiners, \$9,654 from the general revenue fund; and
- (11) Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, \$6,476 from the general revenue fund.

(c) The amounts identified under Subsection (b) include money from the general revenue fund and general revenue dedicated accounts that is intended to provide the specified agencies' salary increase described by this section for any employee currently paid from federal funds that are not available for that purpose.

(d) The provisions of Article IX, Section 6.08, requiring salaries and benefits to be paid proportionally from each source of funding are incorporated into this section by reference and

apply to funds appropriated for a specified agencies' salary increase as identified under Subsection (b). If necessary, each agency shall pay the specified agencies' salary increase described by Subsection (b) from funds held in the state Treasury and from local funds in the same proportion as the employee's regular compensation is paid, unless the employee's salary is paid from federal funds that are not available for that purpose.

(e) The Comptroller of Public Accounts shall adopt rules as necessary to administer this section. The Comptroller of Public Accounts shall allocate money appropriated under Subsection (b) to each agency, and to the appropriate employee benefit appropriation items, in accordance with those rules.

(f) Except for the Department of Insurance and the Office of Injured Employee Counsel, a state agency that receives appropriations of money described under Subsection (b) may not increase fees or taxes to offset the appropriation. For the state agencies identified under Subsection (b) that are subject to a provision limiting the amount appropriated to the agency to revenues collected by the agency, the amount necessary to provide employees the specified agencies' salary increase is included in the amount identified under Subsection (b).

(g) The specified agencies' salary increase provided under this section applies to part-time employees hired pursuant to Government Code, Section 658.009. For purposes of this section, in computing the specified agencies' salary increase described by this section for those part-time employees, the amount provided for each employee must be proportional to the number of hours the employee works per week as compared to a 40-hour work week. Furthermore, eligibility for the salary increase under this section (a monthly salary of \$3,333.33 or less during the month of September, 2023, annualized to an annual salary of \$40,000 or less) must be calculated proportionally for a part-time employee.

(h) Notwithstanding other restrictions on transfers of appropriations from one strategy to another, the funds appropriated elsewhere in this Act for the specified agencies' salary increase as identified in Subsection (b) may be transferred to other strategies without limitation for the purpose of implementing the salary increase.

(h) The September 1, 2023, salary increase provided by Article IX, Section 17.18, and the September 1, 2023, specified agencies' salary increase provided by this section shall be calculated independently of one another.