

Section 5

Special Provisions Relating To All Regulatory Agencies Rider Highlights - House

3. **Funding for Health Professions Council.**

- Recommendations include funding for the Health Professions Council (HPC) with a net increase of \$120,249 as compared to allocations approved by the 83rd Legislature due to an increase in funding to annualize salaries at the 2015 level, increased Data Center maintenance costs, and changes in HPC participation levels by the member agencies.

4. **Texas.gov Appropriation.**

- Recommendations include an updated informational listing of the amounts appropriated to participating agencies in bill pattern order and continue to require notifications of agency exemptions from participation and certifications by the Comptroller of Public Accounts. The rider is designed to authorize each licensing agency participating in the program to increase its licensing fees in order to pay for the costs associated with the program. In order to neutralize the cost to the General Appropriations Act, the rider appropriates to each participating agency an amount equal to revenue raised by that agency for new application fees.

5. **Contingency Appropriations for Criminal History Record Information.**

- Recommendations include an updated informational listing of the amounts appropriated to agencies conducting criminal history background checks in bill pattern order and the continuation of a requirement that appropriations are limited to revenue collections for these checks. The rider is designed to authorize each licensing agency conducting criminal history background checks to increase fees in order to pay for the costs associated with those checks as necessary. An additional requirement is included to ensure agencies utilize the funds appropriated for Criminal History Record Information only for the purpose of paying for the cost of the fee charged by entities performing the background checks. In order to neutralize the cost to the General Appropriations Act, the rider appropriates to each participating agency an amount equal to revenue raised by that agency for this purpose.