

SALLIE ALCORN Houston City Council Member At-Large, Position 5

March 31, 2025

Honorable Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of House Bill 1517. In 2017, the city-commissioned PFM Ten-Year Financial Plan Report highlighted our region's 60 overlapping law enforcement agencies with over 12,000 sworn officers, presenting opportunities for greater efficiency by increasing collaboration and coordination. The proposed changes present a practical and much-needed avenue for enhanced intergovernmental cooperation, particularly for a region as complex and resource-intensive as Houston and Harris County.

Section (f) of HB 1517 directly addresses this need by enabling constables in counties with populations exceeding four million, such as Harris County, to enforce municipal ordinances through written agreements. By allowing Harris County constables to help enforce city ordinances, like noise and other nuisance issues, we are able to strategically leverage existing resources to address critical gaps in service.

This bill provides a sensible and effective mechanism for both strengthening law enforcement response and improving the quality of life for Houston residents. I urge the committee to support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Warm regards,

Sallie Olm

Sallie Alcorn