

# H.F. 416

With author's amendment (H0416A1)

**Subject** Penalty forgiveness for the city of Austin

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## Overview

Makes a onetime appropriation from the general fund in fiscal year 2019 to reimburse the city of Austin for the calendar year 2016 state fire aid and 2016 supplemental police and fire retirement aid it did not receive due to a dispute over use of 2015 aid payments. The total payment to the city under this provision is \$129,093.40 and will be made by June 30, 2019.

Effective the day following final enactment.

**Background:** A provision of law allowing a city to split its state fire aid payments between the city and the relief association was repealed because no one thought it was being used. Unfortunately the city of Austin was using the law and was unaware of the repeal. The state auditor, when they discovered the city was still splitting the aid payments, penalized the city for inappropriate use of these aids by withholding the 2016 aid payments.