DIGEST

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HB 303 Engrossed	2025 Regular Session	Bayham
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Abstract: Creates the Fugitive Apprehension Unit within the office of the attorney general to allow coordination with state and federal law enforcement officials for the apprehension of fugitives from the law.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the Dept. of Justice Legal Support Fund which funds the operations of the attorney general's office.

<u>Present law</u> provides that monies from this fund may be used to defray the costs of expert witnesses, consultants, contract legal counsel, technology, specialized employee training, and public education initiatives as well as for attorneys and support staff.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides that the attorney general may use monies from this fund to perform the duties required by the Fugitive Apprehension Unit.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the creation of the Fugitive Apprehension Unit within the investigative division of the Dept. of Justice.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the unit shall coordinate and assist with state, federal, and local law enforcement to apprehend fugitives, pursue individuals who have violated court-ordered electronic monitoring programs, execute arrest warrants, give priority to fugitives wanted for violent felony offenses, establish fugitive task forces with other state or federal agencies, and identify, pursue, or arrest those who harbor, aid, or conceal a fugitive.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the attorney general shall appoint and commission special agents who shall be P.O.S.T.-certified peace officers.

(Adds R.S. 49:261)