

By: Ordaz Perez

H.B. No. 4335

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to improving judicial transparency by collecting and
3 publishing data regarding disposition of cases in trial courts.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 71.035, Subchapter C, Chapter 71,
6 Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 71.035. STATISTICS; ENFORCEMENT BY MANDAMUS. (a) The
8 council shall gather judicial statistics, including case level data
9 describing the amount and character of business conducted, and
10 other pertinent information from the several state judges and other
11 court officials of this state. In addition, the council shall
12 implement a monthly tracking system to ensure accountability for
13 counties and courts which participate in the statewide integrated
14 system for child support, medical support, and dental support
15 enforcement established under Section 231.0011, Family Code. As a
16 duty of office, the district clerks and county clerks serving the
17 affected courts shall report monthly such information as may be
18 required by the council, including, at a minimum, the time required
19 to enforce cases from date of delinquency, from date of filing, and
20 from date of service until date of disposition. Such information as
21 is necessary to complete the report and not directly within the
22 control of the district or county clerk, such as date of
23 delinquency, shall be provided to the clerk by the child support
24 registry or by the enforcement agency providing Title IV-D

1 enforcement services in the court. The monthly report shall be
2 transmitted to the Office of Court Administration of the Texas
3 Judicial System no later than the 20th day of the month following
4 the month reported, in such form as may be prescribed by the Office
5 of Court Administration, which may include electronic data
6 transfer. Copies of such reports shall be maintained in the office
7 of the appropriate district or county clerk for a period of at least
8 two years and shall be available to the public for inspection and
9 reproduction.

10 SECTION 2. The Texas Judicial Council shall adopt rules
11 necessary to implement the provisions of this bill.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.