

By: Harless

H.B. No. 1182

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to judicial statistics and other pertinent information,
3 including landlord and tenant dispute information, gathered by or
4 reported to the Texas Judicial Council and certain populous
5 counties.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 71.035, Government Code, is amended by
8 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1), (a-2), and
9 (a-3) to read as follows:

10 (a) The council shall gather judicial statistics and other
11 pertinent information, including monthly court activity statistics
12 for each trial court in this state, from the several state judges
13 and other court officials of this state.

14 (a-1) The [~~In addition, the~~] council shall implement a
15 monthly tracking system to ensure accountability for counties and
16 courts which participate in the statewide integrated system for
17 child support, medical support, and dental support enforcement
18 established under Section 231.0011, Family Code. As a duty of
19 office, the district clerks and county clerks serving the affected
20 courts shall report monthly such information as may be required by
21 the council, including, at a minimum, the time required to enforce
22 cases from date of delinquency, from date of filing, and from date
23 of service until date of disposition. Such information as is
24 necessary to complete the report and not directly within the

1 control of the district or county clerk, such as date of
2 delinquency, shall be provided to the clerk by the child support
3 registry or by the enforcement agency providing Title IV-D
4 enforcement services in the court.

5 (a-2) A [The] monthly report required by Subsection (a) or
6 (a-1) must [shall] be transmitted to the Office of Court
7 Administration of the Texas Judicial System no later than the 20th
8 day of the month following the month reported, in the [such] form
9 and manner [as may be] prescribed by the office [Office of Court
10 Administration], which may include electronic data transfer. The
11 office shall publish the information for each court on the office's
12 public Internet website in a searchable format.

13 (a-3) In a county with a population greater than one
14 million, a court official for each court in the county shall submit
15 to the appropriate county official for publication on the county's
16 public Internet website a copy of each monthly report required
17 under Subsections (a) and (a-1) within the time required by
18 Subsection (a-2). The county shall publish the information for
19 each court on the county's Internet website in a searchable format
20 [Copies of such reports shall be maintained in the office of the
21 appropriate district or county clerk for a period of at least two
22 years and shall be available to the public for inspection and
23 reproduction].

24 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 71, Government Code, is
25 amended by adding Section 71.0354 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 71.0354. LANDLORD AND TENANT DISPUTE INFORMATION:
27 COURTS. (a) As a component of the official monthly report

1 submitted under Section 71.035, a court with jurisdiction over
2 landlord and tenant disputes shall report by category each case
3 filed in the court under Chapter 24, Property Code, or Title 8,
4 Property Code, including:

5 (1) eviction suits;

6 (2) suits involving the disconnection of utilities;

7 (3) repair and remedy suits;

8 (4) suits involving security deposits;

9 (5) suits involving unlawful lockouts;

10 (6) suits involving the provision of security and
11 safety devices; and

12 (7) any other category of suit involving a landlord or
13 tenant brought under Title 8, Property Code, and designated by the
14 council.

15 (b) The council may adopt rules as necessary to implement
16 this section.

17 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
18 of this Act, the Texas Judicial Council shall adopt any rules
19 necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act.

20 SECTION 4. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
21 date of this Act the Texas Judicial Council shall prescribe the
22 categories of landlord and tenant suits a court is required to
23 report under Section 71.0354, Government Code, as added by this
24 Act, and the procedures for reporting under that section.

25 (b) Notwithstanding Section 71.0354, Government Code, as
26 added by this Act, a court is not required to report landlord and
27 tenant dispute information under that section until after the Texas

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1 Judicial Council establishes the categories and procedures for
2 reporting under that section.

3 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.