

By: Harless

H.B. No. 1182

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to judicial statistics and other pertinent information
3 gathered by the Texas Judicial Council and certain populous
4 counties.

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

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

9 (a) The council shall uniformly gather judicial statistics
10 and other pertinent information, including case-level information
11 on the amount and character of the civil and criminal business
12 transacted by each district court, statutory county court, county
13 court, municipal court, and justice court, from [the several state]
14 judges, justices, court clerks, and other court officials of this
15 state.

16 (a-1) The [In addition, the] council shall implement a
17 monthly tracking system to ensure accountability for counties and
18 courts which participate in the statewide integrated system for
19 child support, medical support, and dental support enforcement
20 established under Section 231.0011, Family Code. As a duty of
21 office, the district clerks and county clerks serving the affected
22 courts shall report monthly such information as may be required by
23 the council, including, at a minimum, the time required to enforce
24 cases from date of delinquency, from date of filing, and from date

1 of service until date of disposition. Such information as is
2 necessary to complete the report and not directly within the
3 control of the district or county clerk, such as date of
4 delinquency, shall be provided to the clerk by the child support
5 registry or by the enforcement agency providing Title IV-D
6 enforcement services in the court.

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

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

26 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
27 of this Act, the Texas Judicial Council shall adopt any rules

1 necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act.

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