

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.S.B. 1165  
By: Barrientos  
Juvenile Justice & Family Issues  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The Federal Government provides a 66% funding match to the Attorney General's Child Support Division (Title IV-D Agency) for child support services provided by the State of Texas. In turn, the Title IV-D Agency passes the 66% federal match through the counties to cover up the 66% of their costs of the issuance and service of process by counties. The State of Texas is supposed to provide a 33% match to counties but this match has never been funded. Section 231.202, Family Code, authorizes counties to bill the Title IV-D Agency up to \$45 for the cost of serving child support process. Over the last decade most county service fees have risen well beyond \$45, but counties are only authorized to draw down the federal match up to \$45.

C.S.S.B.1165 would enable counties to recoup more of their costs for child support services performed for the Title IV-D Agency by authorizing the commissioners court of a county to set the fee amount. This would allow counties to actually recoup 66% of their costs for performing child support services from federal matching funds.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

**SECTION 1.** Amends Section 231.202, Family Code, by striking "of \$45" and adding language which provides that sheriffs and constables are authorized to charge for serving process under Section 118.131, Local Government Code.

**SECTION 2.** This Act takes effect September 1, 2003. Prospective provisions.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2003.

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE**

C.S.S.B.1165 modifies the original S.B.1165 by deleting "\$65" and prescribes language which provides that sheriffs and constables are authorized to charge for serving process under Section 118.131, Local Government Code. The substitute additionally provides for prospective provisions.