

By: Armbrister

S.B. No. 458

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring a court cost impact statement on a bill or resolution that imposes a court cost on a person charged with a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 319, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 319. LEGISLATION REGARDING JUDICIAL SYSTEM

~~[IMPACT NOTES]~~

SECTION 2. Sections 319.001-319.004, Government Code, are designated as Subchapter A of Chapter 319 and the following heading is added to that subchapter:

SUBCHAPTER A. JUDICIAL SYSTEM IMPACT NOTES

SECTION 3. Chapter 319, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. LEGISLATION RELATING TO COURT COSTS

Sec. 319.021. IMPACT STATEMENT ON LEGISLATION IMPOSING COURT COSTS ON CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS. (a) The state auditor shall prepare an impact statement for each resolution proposing a constitutional amendment or bill that proposes imposing a new court cost or fee on a person charged with a criminal offense or increasing the amount of an existing court cost or fee imposed on a person charged with a criminal offense, including a court cost or fee imposed on conviction or other disposition or postponed

1 disposition of the criminal charge.

2 (b) The impact statement must show the total amount of court
3 costs and fees that persons will be required to pay under the bill
4 or resolution when considered together with all other applicable
5 laws.

6 (c) The state auditor shall deliver a copy of the impact
7 statement to the author of the bill or resolution and to each member
8 of a legislative committee to which the bill or resolution is
9 referred not later than the fifth day after the date the bill or
10 resolution is referred to the committee.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.