1-1 By: West

(In the Senate - Filed March 3, 2003; March 5, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Government Organization;
1-4 May 8, 2003, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,
Nays 0; May 8, 2003, sent to printer.)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

relating to a program to monitor the collection and remittance of certain court costs and fees.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The comptroller of public accounts shall develop and submit a proposal for a monitoring program under which the comptroller will periodically monitor the collection, remittance, and reporting of court costs and fees required to be collected from a party to a civil case or a defendant in a criminal case and remitted to the comptroller by the clerks of the district, county, statutory county, municipal, and justice courts. The monitoring program must be designed to assess whether:

- (1) the comptroller is receiving complete information on the sources of the costs and fees collected;
- (2) each court clerk is reporting the costs and fees collected as required by law; and
- (3) the comptroller is crediting the costs and fees remitted to the appropriate fund or account.
- (b) The comptroller of public accounts shall submit a cost estimate for implementing and operating the monitoring program proposed under Subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) The comptroller of public accounts shall submit the proposal and cost estimate required by this section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives not later than September 1, 2004.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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