

Amend CSSB 978 as follows:

(1) Strike SECTION 1 of the bill (committee printing, page 1, line 12, through page 2, line 18) and substitute the following:

SECTION 1. Chapter 103, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Article 103.0033 to read as follows:

Art. 103.0033. COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. (a) In this article:

(1) "Office" means the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System.

(2) "Program" means the program to improve the collection of court costs, fees, and fines imposed in criminal cases, as developed and implemented under this article.

(b) This article applies only to:

(1) a county with a population of 50,000 or greater;
and

(2) a municipality with a population of 100,000 or greater.

(c) Unless granted a waiver under Subsection (h), each county and municipality shall develop and implement a program that complies with the prioritized implementation schedule under Subsection (h). A county program must include district, county, and justice courts.

(d) The program must consist of:

(1) a component that conforms with a model developed by the office and designed to improve in-house collections through application of best practices; and

(2) a component designed to improve collection of balances more than 60 days past due, which may be implemented by entering into a contract with a private attorney or public or private vendor in accordance with Article 103.0031.

(e) Not later than June 1 of each year, the office shall identify those counties and municipalities that:

(1) have not implemented a program; and

(2) are able to implement a program before April 1 of the following year.

(f) The comptroller, in cooperation with the office, shall develop a methodology for determining the collection rate of

counties and municipalities described by Subsection (e) before implementation of a program. The comptroller shall determine the rate for each county and municipality not later than the first anniversary of the county's or municipality's adoption of a program.

(g) The office shall:

(1) make available on the office's Internet website requirements for a program; and

(2) assist counties and municipalities in implementing a program by providing training and consultation, except that the office may not provide employees for implementation of a program.

(h) The office, in consultation with the comptroller, may:

(1) use case dispositions, population, revenue data, or other appropriate measures to develop a prioritized implementation schedule for programs; and

(2) determine whether it is not cost-effective to implement a program in a county or municipality and grant a waiver to the county or municipality.

(i) Each county and municipality shall at least annually submit to the office and the comptroller a written report that includes updated information regarding the program, as determined by the office in cooperation with the comptroller. The report must be in a form approved by the office in cooperation with the comptroller.

(j) The comptroller shall periodically audit counties and municipalities to verify information reported under Subsection (i) and confirm that the county or municipality is conforming with requirements relating to the program. The comptroller shall consult with the office in determining how frequently to conduct audits under this section.

(2) In SECTION 2 of the bill, in proposed Subsection (e), Section 133.058, Local Government Code (committee printing, page 2, lines 23, 25, and 29), strike "103.0032" each place it appears and substitute "103.0033".

(3) In SECTION 3 of the bill, in proposed Subsection (c-1), Section 133.103, Local Government Code (committee printing, page 2,

lines 47, 49, and 53), strike "103.0032" each place it appears and substitute "103.0033".

(4) In Subsection (a), SECTION 4, of the bill (committee printing, page 2, lines 55-56 and 63), strike "Subsection (d), Article 103.0032" each place it appears and substitute "Subsection (e), Article 103.0033".

(5) In Subsection (a), SECTION 4, of the bill (committee printing, page 2, line 60), strike "103.0032" and substitute "103.0033".

(6) In Subsection (b), SECTION 4, of the bill (committee printing, page 2, line 68), strike "103.0032" and substitute "103.0033".

(7) In Subsection (b), SECTION 4, of the bill (committee printing, page 2, line 69), strike "(f)" and substitute "(g)".