

By: Dukes, et al.

H.B. No. 371

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study regarding the conversion of certain Class C
3 misdemeanors to civil infractions.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) The Office of Court Administration of the
6 Texas Judicial System shall conduct a study to determine the
7 feasibility, efficiency, and potential cost savings of converting
8 certain Class C misdemeanors to civil infractions. In conducting
9 the study, the office shall examine:

10 (1) which Class C misdemeanors are appropriate to
11 convert to civil infractions; and

12 (2) which civil collections procedures involving
13 judicial oversight could be used to collect fines, court costs, and
14 fees on the civil infractions.

15 (b) For input regarding the study, the Office of Court
16 Administration of the Texas Judicial System:

17 (1) shall consult with county and municipal court
18 judges, justices of the peace, the Department of Public Safety, the
19 Parks and Wildlife Department, and the Texas District and County
20 Attorneys Association; and

21 (2) may consult with any other appropriate agency or
22 organization.

23 (c) Not later than October 1, 2008, the Office of Court
24 Administration of the Texas Judicial System shall file a report

1 containing the results of the study and recommendations for
2 legislation with the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker
3 of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the standing
4 committees of the senate and house of representatives with
5 jurisdiction over the judicial system.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.