

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 705

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to an annual report by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System about jury charges and sentences in capital cases.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 72, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 72.087 to read as follows:

Sec. 72.087. CAPITAL TRIALS. (a) The office shall annually collect and publish a report of information regarding cases involving the trial of a capital offense.

(b) The report must include:

(1) the contents of the trial court's charge to the jury; and

(2) the sentence issued in each case.

(c) Not later than the 30th day after the date the judgment of conviction or acquittal is entered in a case involving the trial of a capital offense, the judge or clerk of the court shall submit to the office a written record of the case containing the information required by Subsection (b).

SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2008, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System shall publish its first report of information regarding cases involving the trial of a capital offense, as required by Section 72.087, Government Code, as added by this Act.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.