

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1685  
By: Hughes  
Corrections  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Current law authorizes a judge to order a defendant, in lieu of community service hours, to make a donation to a nonprofit food bank or food pantry in the community in which the defendant resides for purposes of satisfying a community supervision condition. Interested parties contend that this law is too restrictive for communities in which a food bank or food pantry may not exist or in which other worthy nonprofit organizations also provide charitable services to the community. H.B. 1685 seeks to remedy this situation.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1685 amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to authorize a judge to order a defendant, in lieu of requiring the defendant to work a specified number of hours at a community service project in satisfaction of a condition of community supervision and as an alternative to ordering such a defendant to make a specified donation to a nonprofit food bank or food pantry, to make a specified donation to another nonprofit organization that provides services or assistance to needy individuals and families in the community in which the defendant resides and is a charitable organization exempted from federal income tax under the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2015.