

By: Canales

H.B. No. 3892

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a study conducted by the Office of Court Administration
3 of the Texas Judicial System

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 72, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 72.032 to read as follows:

7 Section 72.032. STUDY ON COLLECTIONS OF COURT FEES AND
8 COSTS.

9 (a) Not later than October 1, 2016, the Office of Court
10 Administration shall conduct a study on court fees and costs that
11 determines:

12 (1) which statutory court fees and costs are assessed in
13 criminal cases;

14 (2) how much money is assessed for each of those court fees
15 and costs;

16 (3) how much money is collected for each of those court fees
17 and costs;

18 (4) the average or median amount of money assessed and
19 collected in court fees and costs per case;

20 (5) the amount of jail credit given, in dollars; and

21 (6) how much time it takes after assessment for court fees
22 and costs to be collected, including the percentage collected
23 immediately; the percentage collected within 30, 60, 90, and 180
24 days; and the percentage collected after 180 days.

1 (b) Once the study is concluded, the office shall:

2 (1) publish the study results on the office's Internet
3 website and in the Texas Register; and

4 (2) provide a copy of the study results to the governor,
5 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives.

6 (c) In conducting the study required under Subsection (a), the
7 office shall consult with local government representatives as the
8 office determines appropriate. The office may choose to conduct the
9 study by examining and analyzing a representative sample of
10 jurisdictions.

11 (d) This section expires January 1, 2019.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.