

By: White

H.B. No. 2907

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study on the adjudication of juveniles charged with
3 misdemeanors punishable by fine only and the use of certain terms
4 signifying age in the criminal justice and juvenile justice
5 statutes of this state.

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

7 SECTION 1. (a) The Office of Court Administration of the
8 Texas Judicial System shall conduct a study to examine the use of
9 the terms "juvenile," "child," and "minor" throughout the criminal
10 justice and juvenile justice statutes of this state and the varying
11 definitions assigned those terms. The study shall also determine
12 whether:

13 (1) adjudication under the adult criminal justice
14 system of juveniles charged with misdemeanors punishable by fine
15 only is just and efficient; and

16 (2) certain procedures under the juvenile justice
17 system if used in the adjudication of juveniles charged with
18 misdemeanors punishable by fine only would provide a more just and
19 efficient process for responding to violations of the law by
20 juvenile offenders.

21 (b) In conducting the study under Subsection (a) of this
22 section, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial
23 System shall consult with the chair of the senate criminal justice
24 committee, the chair of the juvenile justice and family issues

1 committee of the house of representatives, and the chair of the
2 corrections committee of the house of representatives.

3 (c) Not later than December 1, 2018, the Office of Court
4 Administration of the Texas Judicial System shall submit a report
5 containing the results of the study conducted under Subsection (a)
6 of this section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
7 speaker of the house of representatives, and the appropriate
8 standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives.

9 SECTION 2. This Act expires December 1, 2019.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.