86R2549 MEW-D

By:  Canales H.B. No. 110

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding the conversion of certain Class C misdemeanors to civil violations.

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

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

(1)  which Class C misdemeanors are appropriate to convert to civil violations; and

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

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

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

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

(c)  Not later than October 1, 2020, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System shall file a report containing the results of the study and recommendations for legislation with the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over the judicial system.

SECTION 2.  This Act expires December 1, 2021.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.