By:  Wu H.B. No. 3461

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to allowing TJJD to approve a small number of Regional Diversion Alternatives placements for youth with intense needs at a higher rate than the average daily cost of state secure facilities.

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

SECTION 1.  Sec. 223.001(d), Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  The department shall reimburse counties for the placement of children in the regional specialized program at a rate that offers a savings to the state in relation to the average cost per day for confining a child in a department facility operated under Subtitle C.

(d-1)  Under the regionalization program, TJJD may determine the cost savings to the state by calculating the average cost of all diversion placements in each fiscal year of the biennium in comparison to the state secure facilities average daily cost.

(e)  The department may not adversely impact the state aid for a juvenile board or a juvenile probation department that does not enter into a contract to serve youth from other counties, or does not act as a regional facility.

(f)  A juvenile board or juvenile probation department may not be required to accept a child for placement in a post-adjudication correctional facility, unless the child is subject to an order issued by a juvenile court served by that board or department.