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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Raymond

Amend C.S.S.B. No. 1 (house committee printing) as follows:

1. In the bill pattern for the Judiciary Section, Comptroller's Department (page IV - 30), amend A.1.3. Strategy: VISITING JUDGES - REGIONS by striking "\$5,050,306" and substituting "\$9,050,306" for both fiscal Year 2022 and fiscal Year 2023.

2. In Article IV of the bill, following the appropriations to the Judiciary Section, Comptroller's Department (page IV - 31), add the following appropriately numbered rider and renumber subsequent riders accordingly:

____. Funding to Address Case Backlogs. Out of the amounts appropriated above to the Judiciary Section, Comptroller's Department in Strategy A.1.3: VISTING JUDGES - REGIONS, \$4,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2022 and \$4,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 for the purpose of providing funding for increased costs resulting from additional visiting judges needed for case backlogs, including backlogs arising due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. In the bill pattern for the Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council (page IV - 22), amend Strategy A.1.2, Information Technology by striking "\$29,525,164" and substituting "\$33,0525,164" for fiscal year 2022.

4. In Article IV of the bill, following the appropriations to Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council (page IV - 22), add the following appropriately numbered rider and renumber subsequent riders accordingly:

____. Information Technology Modernization to Address Court Backlogs. Out of the amounts appropriated above to the Office of Court Administration in Strategy A.1.2, Information Technology, \$4,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2022 for the purpose of implementing an information technology modernization program to address court backlogs, including backlogs arising due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the intent of the legislature that:

(a) this appropriation be expended through a competitive procurement process to implement the program in accordance with general law and that at least two respondents meet qualifications for evaluation; and

(b) to the extent authorized by general law, the program as implemented:

(1) increases Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) compliance throughout the state for a secure end-to-end case access;

(2) provides means for frequent, timely and accurate digital sharing of evidence, exhibits, documents, and multimedia;

(3) provides the ability to annotate and redact documents;
and

(4) ensures there are no barriers to entry for pro se litigants thus ensuring access to justice.