By:  Miles S.B. No. 1460

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating tothe appointment of counsel to represent indigent defendants.

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

SECTION 1.   Chapter79,Government Code, is amended by addingSection79.044to read as follows:

(a)  Thissection applies only to a county with a population of more than 3.3 million.

(b)  The number of court appointments in criminal cases received by an attorney is not to exceed theguidelines contained in caseload studies published by the commissionpursuant to House Bill 1318, 83rdTexas Legislature.

(c)  If information provided under Section 79.036(a-1) shows that the number of appointments made to an attorney accepting appointments in the county exceeds caseload guidelines, the county may withhold payment to that attorney for those cases that exceed the caseload guidelines.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.