

1-1 By: Dutton (Senate Sponsor - Whitmire) H.B. No. 954
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2021;
1-3 May 10, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
1-4 Justice; May 20, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 20, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Whitmire	X		
1-9	Huffman	X		
1-10	Bettencourt	X		
1-11	Birdwell	X		
1-12	Hinojosa	X		
1-13	Miles	X		
1-14	Nichols	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to certain contract and notice requirements applicable to
1-18 certain facilities used to house inmates or releasees from the
1-19 Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 493.010, Government Code, is amended to
1-22 read as follows:

1-23 Sec. 493.010. CONTRACTS FOR MISCELLANEOUS HOUSING. (a) The
1-24 board, for the temporary or permanent housing of inmates, may enter
1-25 into leases or contract with:

1-26 (1) public or private jails; or

1-27 (2) operators of alternative housing facilities.

1-28 (b) The board may not enter into a lease or contract with an
1-29 operator of an alternative housing facility that is located in a
1-30 county with a population of 3.3 million or more unless the operator
1-31 submits to the board a permit or other documentation showing that
1-32 the facility is in compliance with all applicable municipal and
1-33 county regulations.

1-34 SECTION 2. Chapter 508, Government Code, is amended by
1-35 adding Subchapter E-1 to read as follows:

1-36 SUBCHAPTER E-1. ALTERNATIVE HOUSING IN CERTAIN COUNTIES

1-37 Sec. 508.171. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies only
1-38 with respect to alternative housing that is located in a county with
1-39 a population of 3.3 million or more.

1-40 Sec. 508.172. ALTERNATIVE HOUSING PROGRAM. The department
1-41 shall require that an applicant to participate as a provider in a
1-42 program designed to provide alternative housing for two or more
1-43 unrelated releasees submit with the application, in the manner
1-44 specified by the department, a permit or other documentation
1-45 showing that the proposed alternative housing facility is in
1-46 compliance with all applicable municipal and county regulations.

1-47 Sec. 508.173. INFORMATION REGARDING ALTERNATIVE HOUSING;
1-48 NOTICE TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. (a) The department shall
1-49 maintain the following information regarding releasees:

1-50 (1) a list of facilities providing alternative housing
1-51 to two or more unrelated releasees, including:

1-52 (A) the name, address, and telephone number of
1-53 the facility;

1-54 (B) the county in which the facility is located;

1-55 (C) information regarding whether the facility
1-56 is in compliance with all applicable municipal and county
1-57 regulations;

1-58 (D) the number of releasees residing at the
1-59 facility; and

1-60 (E) the maximum capacity of the facility; and

1-61 (2) a list of releasees being housed at a facility

2-1 described by Subdivision (1), including:
2-2 (A) the releasee's name;
2-3 (B) the county in which the releasee is required
2-4 to reside under Section 508.181;
2-5 (C) the county in which the releasee committed
2-6 the offense for which the releasee is on parole or mandatory
2-7 supervision;
2-8 (D) the alternative housing facility in which the
2-9 releasee resides; and
2-10 (E) the date on which the releasee began residing
2-11 at the facility.

2-12 (b) On request of a county or municipality, the department
2-13 shall provide monthly the information maintained by the department
2-14 under Subsection (a). A county or municipality shall notify the
2-15 department if the county or municipality does not want to continue
2-16 to receive the information.

2-17 (c) The department shall provide the information to a county
2-18 or municipality under Subsection (b) by secured electronic mail and
2-19 in a machine-readable format.

2-20 (d) On request by a member of the legislature, the
2-21 department shall provide the information maintained by the
2-22 department under Subsection (a) to the member.

2-23 SECTION 3. (a) Section 493.010, Government Code, as
2-24 amended by this Act, applies only to a lease or contract entered
2-25 into on or after the effective date of this Act.

2-26 (b) Section 508.172, Government Code, as added by this Act,
2-27 applies only to an application to participate in a program
2-28 described by that section that is submitted on or after the
2-29 effective date of this Act.

2-30 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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