

By: Sherman, Sr.

H.B. No. 2384

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to measures to improve community supervision outcomes.

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

SECTION 1. Section 509.003, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to read as follows:

(e) The division shall allow departments to implement reporting intervals for defendants directly supervised by the departments that are determined by risk, with higher-risk defendants reporting at more frequent intervals than lower-risk defendants. A reporting interval for a low-risk defendant may not exceed 12 months.

(f) The division shall prepare and make available guidance documents to assist departments and judges in determining best practices for the use of progressive sanctions.

(g) The division shall implement an online technical assistance library that includes online training for purposes of improving the rate of successful completion of community supervision for all departments and judges in this state.

SECTION 2. Section 509.011, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) The division may not reduce the amount of funding payable to a department under Subsection (a) based on the reporting interval of a defendant supervised by the department.

SECTION 3. Section 509.013, Government Code, is amended by

1 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

2 (c) The division shall ensure that a portion of funds used  
3 for grant programs are available for grants to departments for the  
4 purpose of employing certified peer support specialists, certified  
5 recovery coaches, and certified reentry support specialists to  
6 provide peer-to-peer support for defendants on community  
7 supervision and to assist those defendants in successfully  
8 completing the period of community supervision.

9 SECTION 4. Chapter 509, Government Code, is amended by  
10 adding Sections 509.019 and 509.020 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 509.019. ANNUAL REPORT ON COMMUNITY SUPERVISION  
12 OUTCOMES. (a) Not later than February 1 of each year, the division  
13 shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the  
14 speaker of the house of representatives, each member of the  
15 legislature, each department, and each district court, office of an  
16 attorney representing the state, and public defender's office in  
17 this state. The report must include:

18 (1) community supervision outcomes for the preceding  
19 calendar year for each department, county, district court, and  
20 statutory county court with criminal jurisdiction, including:

21 (A) the revocation rate of defendants placed on  
22 community supervision; and

23 (B) the proportion of terminations of the period  
24 of community supervision that resulted in:

25 (i) the defendant receiving a discharge  
26 following successful completion of community supervision;

27 (ii) the defendant receiving a discharge

1 following an early termination of community supervision under  
2 Article 42A.111 or 42A.701, Code of Criminal Procedure; or

3 (iii) the revocation of community  
4 supervision;

5 (2) a comparison of the outcomes described by  
6 Subdivision (1) to:

7 (A) the statewide average for the outcomes; and

8 (B) if applicable, the outcomes of comparable  
9 courts that have a rate of successful completion of community  
10 supervision that is above the statewide average; and

11 (3) a detailed summary of the division's efforts to  
12 reduce the revocation rate of defendants placed on community  
13 supervision.

14 (b) The division shall make the report available on the  
15 division's Internet website.

16 Sec. 509.020. PROGRAM FOR IMPROVING RATE OF SUCCESSFUL  
17 COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY SUPERVISION. (a) The division shall  
18 implement a program in which departments and judges of courts with a  
19 rate of successful completion of community supervision that is  
20 above the statewide average provide training and technical  
21 assistance to other departments and judges for the purpose of  
22 improving the successful completion rate of those departments and  
23 judges.

24 (b) If a department has a rate of successful completion of  
25 community supervision that is below the statewide average, the  
26 division shall require as a condition to payment of state aid under  
27 Section 509.011 that the department receive training through the

1 program implemented under this section until the department's rate  
2 of successful completion of community supervision exceeds the  
3 statewide average.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.