

By: Miles

S.B. No. 417

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to reports to the Office of Court Administration of the
3 Texas Judicial System on certain cases filed in justice and
4 municipal courts.

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

6 SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter E, Chapter 72,
7 Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER E. COURT PERFORMANCE AND OTHER REPORTS [~~STANDARDS~~]

9 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 72, Government Code, is
10 amended by adding Section 72.0831 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 72.0831. JUSTICE AND MUNICIPAL COURTS. (a) Each
12 justice and municipal court shall annually report to the office for
13 each criminal case filed with the court during the reporting year:

14 (1) the offense charged;

15 (2) the final disposition of the case; and

16 (3) the defendant's race or ethnicity, as reported in
17 the citation, affidavit establishing probable cause, or offense
18 report filed with the case.

19 (b) Each justice court shall annually report to the office
20 for each residential eviction suit filed with the court during the
21 reporting year:

22 (1) the final disposition of the case; and

23 (2) the defendant's race or ethnicity, as reported to
24 the court by the defendant or, if the defendant does not report the

1 defendant's race or ethnicity, the fact that the defendant prefers
2 not to report the defendant's race or ethnicity.

3 (c) The office shall adopt rules prescribing the form and
4 manner of submission of the reports required by this section and the
5 dates on which those reports are due each year.

6 (d) A report made under this section is confidential and not
7 subject to disclosure under Chapter 552.

8 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
9 of this Act, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas
10 Judicial System shall adopt rules implementing Section 72.0831,
11 Government Code, as added by this Act.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.