

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 20, 2021

TO: Honorable Jeff Leach, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4335 by Ordaz Perez (Relating to improving judicial transparency by collecting and publishing data regarding disposition of cases in trial courts.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB4335, As Introduced : an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

The bill would have a negative impact of (\$6,891,680) to the General Revenue-Dedicated Statewide Electronic Filing System Account 5157 through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2022	\$0
2023	\$0
2024	\$0
2025	\$0
2026	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Savings/(Cost) from Statewide Electronic Filing System 5157
2022	(\$3,891,680)
2023	(\$3,000,000)
2024	(\$3,000,000)
2025	(\$3,000,000)
2026	(\$3,000,000)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend the Government Code related to the Texas Judicial Council's requirement to gather judicial statistics and other pertinent information from the several state judges and other court officials of this state. The bill would require the Council to gather case level data describing the amount and character of business conducted when gathering judicial statistics.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2021.

Methodology

Costs reflected in the table above are based on the analysis provided by the Office of Court Administration (OCA).

Based on information provided by OCA, it is assumed that the agency would procure a system from a vendor at an initial cost of \$3,891,680 in fiscal year 2022 to accept and maintain the case level information required by the bill. It is also assumed that subsequent costs of \$3,000,000 would be required each fiscal year for cloud storage costs. This project would be eligible for funding from the General Revenue-Dedicated Statewide Electronic Filing Fund No. 5157. Based on information provided in the Comptroller's Biennial Revenue Estimate, this analysis assumes there would be sufficient funding available in the account in the 2022-23 biennium to cover funding necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.

Technology

This analysis assumes an initial cost of \$3,891,680 to procure a new system in fiscal year 2022 with subsequent costs of \$3,000,000 each fiscal year for cloud storage costs.

Local Government Impact

While there may be a cost to local governments to provide the data required due to modification of court case management systems, OCA anticipates that most clerks' case management contracts with vendors include provisions that do not require payment when there are state-mandated reporting changes. The cost will vary by jurisdiction due to these differences by county.

The fiscal impact to units of local government cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Admin

LBB Staff: JMc, SLE, MW, BH, AF