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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 948 |
| By: Dutton |
| Criminal Jurisprudence |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE** When released on parole from a Texas prison, an individual must comply with certain conditions until they successfully complete parole. One such condition is that the parolee avoid new criminal charges while on parole. If a new criminal charge is levelled against a parolee, a blue warrant is issued and the parolee may be arrested for violating a condition of parole. In many instances, a court may set bond on the new charge but the parolee remains in custody because a bond has not been set for the alleged parole violation arising out of the new charge. H.B. 948 seeks to remedy this situation by requiring a magistrate to release a parolee who is charged with violating a condition of release for committing a new offense if the person has been released on bond for the new offense. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY** It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS** H.B. 948 amends the Government Code to require a magistrate of the county in which a person is held in custody to release the person on personal bond pending the hearing under the following conditions:* the person is arrested or held in custody on a charge of violating a condition of release on parole or to mandatory supervision by committing a new offense; and
* the person has been released on bond for that offense.

The bill applies only to a person who is arrested on or after the bill's effective date.  |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE** September 1, 2023. |