88R11320 TYPED

By:  A. Johnson of Harris H.B. No. 3249

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to regular reporting of district court workload.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter C, Chapter 72, Government Code, is amended by amending Section 72.039 to read as follows:

Sec. 72.039.  DISTRICT COURT WORKLOAD ANALYSIS. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Judicial officer" means a district judge, associate judge, master, magistrate, or referee; and

(2)  "Clearance rate" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 72.083.

(b)  The office shall biennially conduct a district court workload analysis by collecting information on the 30 most populous counties in the state relating to:

(1)  the number of estimated full-time equivalent judicial officers working in the county in the preceding fiscal year;

(2)  the number of full-time equivalent judicial officers needed in the county based on the most recent weighted caseload study;

(3)  the number of new case filings in each of the preceding five fiscal years;

(4)  the clearance rate of cases in each of the preceding five fiscal years;

(5)  the calendar year in which the last district court was created by statute; and

(6)  any other information identified by the director.

(c)  No later than October 1st of every even-numbered year, the office shall report to the governor, lieutenant governor, and the members of the legislature the information collected under Subsection (b).

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.