

By: Longoria

H.B. No. 541

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to donations to certain local charities or veterans county
3 service offices ordered to be paid as a condition of community
4 supervision.

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

6 SECTION 1. Article 42A.304(f), Code of Criminal Procedure,
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (f) Instead of requiring the defendant to work a specified
9 number of hours at one or more community service projects under
10 Subsection (a), the judge may order a defendant to make a specified
11 donation to:

12 (1) a nonprofit food bank or food pantry in the
13 community in which the defendant resides;

14 (2) a charitable organization engaged primarily in
15 performing charitable functions [~~for veterans~~] in the community in
16 which the defendant resides for defendants under community
17 supervision or for veterans;

18 (3) a veterans county service office created under
19 Subchapter B, Chapter 434, Government Code, and operating in the
20 county in which the defendant resides; or

21 (4) [~~(3)~~] in a county with a population of less than
22 50,000, another nonprofit organization that:

23 (A) is exempt from taxation under Section 501(a)
24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 because it is listed in Section

1 501(c)(3) of that code; and

2 (B) provides services or assistance to needy
3 individuals and families in the community in which the defendant
4 resides.

5 SECTION 2. Section [434.032\(c\)](#), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (c) The commissioners court of a county that maintains an
8 office:

9 (1) may not consider donations made [~~a juror's~~
10 ~~donation~~] to the office [~~of the juror's daily reimbursement~~] under
11 Article [42A.304\(f\)](#), Code of Criminal Procedure, or Section 61.003
12 for purposes of determining the county's budget for the office; and

13 (2) may use donations described by Subdivision (1)
14 only to supplement, rather than supplant, amounts budgeted by the
15 county for the office.

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