

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1574
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2025; March 6, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Finance;
1-4 April 22, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 14, Nays 0; April 22, 2025,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE				
1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Huffman	X			
1-10	Hinojosa of Hidalgo	X			
1-11	Alvarado	X			
1-12	Bettencourt	X			
1-13	Campbell	X			
1-14	Creighton	X			
1-15	Flores	X			
1-16	Hall	X			
1-17	Kolkhorst			X	
1-18	Nichols	X			
1-19	Paxton	X			
1-20	Perry	X			
1-21	Schwertner	X			
1-22	West	X			
1-23	Zaffirini	X			

1-24 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1574 By: Zaffirini

1-25 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-26 AN ACT

1-27 relating to a centers of excellence program developed by the Texas
1-28 Judicial Council for certain justices and judges.
1-29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-30 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 71, Government Code, is
1-31 amended by adding Section 71.040 to read as follows:
1-32 Sec. 71.040. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE. (a) The council by
1-33 rule shall develop a centers of excellence program to identify,
1-34 support, and recognize justices and judges who excel in serving
1-35 their communities and in representing the judiciary. In awarding a
1-36 center of excellence recognition to a justice or judge, the council
1-37 must consider:
1-38 (1) a justice's or judge's governance, access,
1-39 fairness, case flow management, and court operations; and
1-40 (2) the compliance of the justice's or judge's court
1-41 with statutory or procedural requirements for judicial reporting,
1-42 court security, fee collection, indigent defense, and guardianship
1-43 fraud and abuse prevention.
1-44 (b) A justice or judge of an appellate court, district
1-45 court, statutory county court, county court, justice court, or
1-46 municipal court is eligible for recognition as a center of
1-47 excellence and may apply for recognition on a form and in the manner
1-48 prescribed by the council.
1-49 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
1-50 a justice or judge recognized under a centers of excellence program
1-51 developed by the Texas Judicial Council on or after the effective
1-52 date of this Act.
1-53 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.
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