

SUBJECT:	Specifying information to be gathered by the Texas Judicial Council
COMMITTEE:	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	9 ayes — Leach, Julie Johnson, Davis, Flores, Moody, Murr, Schofield, Slawson, Vasut 0 nays
WITNESSES:	For — Luis Soberon, Texas 2036 (<i>Registered, but did not testify</i> : M Paige Williams, Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot; Elisa M. Tamayo, El Paso County; Guy Herman, Presiding Statutory Probate Judge of Texas; Amy Befeld, Texans for Lawsuit Reform; Jenny Hixon, Texas Civil Rights Project; Idona Griffith) Against — None On — Megan LaVoie, Office of Court Administration & Texas Judicial Council
BACKGROUND:	Some have suggested that creating measures to evaluate the performance of courts can increase efficiency, reduce costs, and promote public transparency.
DIGEST:	HB 841 would require that the Texas Judicial Council include case-level information on the amount and character of the business transacted by courts among the judicial statistics and other pertinent information it collects. The Texas Judicial Council would be required to adopt rules necessary to implement the bill. The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.
NOTES:	According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would have an estimated negative impact of about \$6 million to general revenue related funds through fiscal 2024-25, with reduced costs in subsequent biennia.