

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1187
By: Armbrister
Jurisprudence
4/13/1999
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

The Judicial and Court Personnel Training Fund (JCPTF), was created by the 69th Legislature to provide funds for the continuing education of all judges at all levels of the Texas judiciary, together with clerks and court personnel working with those judges. In 1991, the legislature included prosecutors and their staffs and criminal defense attorneys who represent indigent defendants, as groups eligible for funding for their training from JCPTF. S.B. 1187 would increase court costs regarding the JCPTF.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1187 establishes provisions regarding the Judicial and Court Personnel Training Fund.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 22.110, Government Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (e), to require the rules adopted by the court of criminal appeals to require certain judges, masters, referees, and magistrates to complete certain certified training within the judicial officer's first four years of service. Requires the rules to require each judge and judicial officer to complete additional training in subsequent terms or four years of service. Requires the criminal court of appeals or the court's designee to report the name of a judge or judicial officer who does not comply with the training requirements to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 56.001(b), Government Code, to require a person to pay \$2, rather than \$1, as a court cost on conviction of any criminal case.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 56.003(b), Government Code, to require no more than one-third of the funds appropriated to be used for the continuing legal education of certain appointed court personnel.

SECTION 4. Effective date: August 31, 1999. Sets forth training requirements for judges and judicial officers with regard to when the judge or judicial officer took office.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 22.110, Government Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (e), to require certain specific certified training for judges and judicial officers, as well as a method for reporting those individuals who do not comply with the requirements. Renumbers subsequent SECTIONS accordingly.

SECTION 4.

Effective date: August 31, 1999. Sets forth training requirements for judges and judicial officers

with regard to when the judge or judicial officer took office.

SECTION 5.

Renumbered from proposed SECTION 3.