

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R660 GWK-D

S.B. 320
By: Ellis
Jurisprudence
2/19/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law regulates a deferment payment schedule for a parole releasee's fees. Although releasees are criminally liable for fine repayment, the parolee criminal fine collection rates for the fall of 1996 were only 61 percent for county courts, representing a loss of \$412,201 on average, and 26 percent for district courts, representing a loss of \$570,333 on average. This bill sets forth provisions regarding the collection of fines and court costs from persons released from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice on parole or mandatory supervision.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 320 sets forth provisions regarding the collection of fines and court costs from persons released from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice on parole or mandatory supervision.

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 Article 103.003, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(c) Authorizes a Texas Department of Criminal Justice employee to collect money in satisfaction of a condition of release on parole or mandatory supervision that requires payment of a fine or court cost.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 508.182(c), Government Code, to allow an exception to the requirement for a releasee to pay a certain fee. Requires a releasee who is required to pay a fine or court costs to pay deferred parole supervision and administrative fees by the second anniversary of the completed payment of the required court costs.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.