

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R7017 RVH-D

S.C.R. 14
By: Ellis
Jurisprudence
3/9/1999
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

Currently, a 1996 survey by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (office) revealed that county-level courts have a collection rate of 61 percent and district courts have a collection rate of 26 percent. Several Texas counties have improved their collection rates by using innovative in-house and private sector collection strategies. The Commission on Judicial Efficiency recommended in 1996 that technology be improved in all Texas county and municipal courts. A computerized collections system and other information technologies would update the current system. This legislation would allow the office to work with the Judicial Committee on Information Technology to develop recommendations for using technology and training to notify counties in which an offense has been committed of the defendant's residency and the fine's repayment status.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.C.R. 14 submits the following resolutions:

That the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (office) work with the Judicial Committee on Information Technology to develop recommendations for using technology and training to notify counties of certain information concerning offenses, and submit its recommendations to the legislature no later than January 1, 2001.

That the secretary of state forward an official copy of this resolution to the director of the office and the presiding officer of the Judicial Committee on Information Technology.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amends S.C.R. 14, on page 2, line 11, by striking "March 1, 1999" and substituting "January 1, 2001."