

85th Legislature Texas Judicial Council Bills

Bill	Summary	Status	Senate Sponsors	House Sponsors
Elders Committee Guardianship Recommendations	<p>This bill enacts the recommendations of the Judicial Council and Elders Committee for guardianship in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Guardianship Compliance Project statewide; • Mandate all guardians not currently required to be certified to register with JBCC; • Expand JBCC’s authority to regulate guardianship programs; • Authorize creation of statewide guardianship registry available for query by law enforcement; • Establish statewide public guardianship office; and • Establish regional specialized guardianship courts. 	<p>SB 36 – regulation of programs</p> <p>SB 667 – GCP expansion</p>	<p>Zaffirini</p> <p>Zaffirini</p>	
Judicial Compensation Commission Recommendations	<p>This bill enacts statutory recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require the Commission’s salary recommendations for judges and justices on the SCOTX, CCA, Appellate Courts and District Judges. be listed in the introduced version of the appropriations acts; • Reduce the number of years required to receive judicial longevity pay from sixteen years of service to two years of service and provide judges or justices 0.2% of their 	<p>In drafting phase</p>		

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	<p>current monthly state salary for every two years of judicial service;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set Children’s Courts Associate Judges salary at 90% of a district judge’s salary; and • Delink legislative retirement from judicial salaries. 			
Judicial Retirement	<p>THIS IS NOT A JUDICIAL COUNCIL BILL. This bill would address an issue that penalizes judges who retire from the bench and then later get elected to another bench. This penalty does not apply to other elected officials or state employees. Judge Bert Richardson is currently being impacted by this provision. He collected retirement between 2008-2014, when he was elected to the CCA. Upon resuming service, his retirement annuity was suspended, he is unable to reenroll in the retirement system, he is ineligible for longevity pay, and he does not get credit for his time served on CCA. Since this seems unfair and does not apply to any other state elected officials or employees, we would like to address this.</p>	SB 45	Zaffirini	
Court Costs Modifications	<p>Enacts several statutory suggestions to improve the assessment and collection of criminal court costs.</p>	<p>HB50 (White)/HB 351 (Canales) – waiver at sentencing HB67 (White)/HB 275 (Gonzales)/SB 90 (Hall) – repeal of DRP HB 76 (White) – municipal judge ENL and 2 yrs suspension</p>	Whitmire	
Pretrial Bail Reform	<p>This is the bill that would enact the Criminal Justice Committee’s recommendations on pretrial bail reform as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require pretrial risk assessment; 	In drafting phase	Whitmire	Murr

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Constitutional bail provision and related statutes to provide presumption of pretrial release through personal bond; • Amend Constitutional bail provision and related statutes to allow preventive detention for high-risk defendants; • Provide funding for pretrial supervision; • Provide funding to ensure magistrates are adequately trained; • Require pretrial release decision data collection; • Expressly authorize CCA to adopt rules to implement; • Provide for transition period to implement – 1/1/2020 			
Mental Health Recommendations	<p>This is the bill that would enact the Mental Health Committee’s recommendations as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening and assessment of mental health in the magistration process; • Streamline the competency restoration process; and • Extend and expand the SB 1185 pilot project. 	HB 337 (Collier)/SB 235 (Menendez) – continuation of benefits in jail	Zaffirini/Perry/Huffman	Price/Coleman/Murr
Court Security Recommendations	<p>This is the bill that would enact the Court Security Committee’s recommendations as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Director of Security and Emergency Preparedness at OCA; • Amend Secs. 30.00007 and 74.092, Government Code and add provision to Chapter 29, Government Code, to require Municipal Judges and Local Administrative District Judges to establish court security committees; • Repeal or amend Art. 102.017(f), CCP, reporting requirement for security incidents; 	SB 42 HB 1487	Zaffirini	Smithee

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require certification of court security personnel; • Increase funding for court security; • Amend statutes impacting judges' personal security and privacy; and • Authorize, and if necessary, provide resources to DPS for personal security for judges. 			
Consolidate civil filing fees and Standardize service fees	This bill would consolidate existing civil filing fees to reduce complexity of the filing fee structure, standardize fees for services provided by the clerk of the district court and county court, and amend statute to provision of non-certified copies to add provisions for the cost of providing these documents in an electronic format.			
Sensitive Data in Court Documents	This bill would repeal provisions of statute that require sensitive data to be included in court documents, or where that information is necessary, require that it be filed in a0 separately sealed document.	In drafting phase		Smithee
Timothy Cole Exoneration Review Commission Recommendations	<p>This bill would enact the recommendations of the Timothy Cole Exoneration Review Commission as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronically record interrogations in felony cases; • Institute regulations on jailhouse informant testimony; • Improve procedures associated with eyewitness identification; and • Improve drug testing protocols for field tests and crime lab tests. 	<p>HB 229 (Canales) – recording (bill doesn't match recommendation)</p> <p>HB 414 (Collier) – recording (bill matches recommendation)</p> <p>In Drafting phase for other components</p>		
Jury Wheel Reconstitution	This bill would update the jury wheel statutes to comply with modern procedures and federal requirements.			

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Oaths of Office for State Judicial Appointees	This bill would clarify that oaths of office and anti-bribery statements for state officials appointed by the Supreme Court, Court of Criminal Appeals, or State Bar of Texas, as well as associate judges appointed for the Children's Courts, be filed with the Texas Secretary of State.	SB 657	Zaffirini	
JBCC Statute Amendments	This bill would simplify and cleanup the Judicial Branch Certification Commission statutes.	SB 43	Zaffirini	