

STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION

of the

TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Data Committee Case Level Data Recommendations

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council is the policymaking body for the Texas Judicial Branch, created under Chapter 71, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Council is charged with improving the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, the Data Committee has been charged with continuing to work on guiding the revisions of the court activity reporting database to collect case-level statistical data; and

WHEREAS, the Council's mission involves the continuous study of the courts and methods for their improvement, consideration of advice concerning remedies for faults in the administration of justice, designing methods for simplifying judicial procedure, expediting the transaction of judicial business, and correcting faults in or improving the administration of justice, and gathering judicial statistics and other pertinent information from judges and other court officials; and

WHEREAS, data are critical to the Council's work; and

WHEREAS, the complexity of cases has increased, and expectations grown for the Council and its partners within and outside of the judiciary to bring strategic focus to their work; and

WHEREAS, the administration of justice in Texas is a dynamic and sometimes complex affair and the need for reliable and complete data about the work of the courts is essential; and

WHEREAS, over the years, data collection has evolved as resources and technology improved the capability of the Council to collect more and different information; and

WHEREAS, Judicial data collection requirements also come from the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in its 2018 report, the Data Committee recommended that the Council collect case-level data from all courts and that data collection be relevant to supporting key functions for the justice system, judiciary, and other policymakers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas Judicial Council requests the Legislature fund the tools necessary for the Texas Judiciary to collect case level data.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan L. Hecht", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Nathan L. Hecht
Chair, Texas Judicial Council