

**BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2725  
By: Pickett (Lucio)  
State Affairs  
5/14/1999  
Engrossed

**DIGEST**

Currently, certain elected officials are authorized to collect money payable under Title 2, Code of Criminal Procedure. H.B. 2725 would authorize the commissioners court of a county to contract with public and private entities to collect funds due and owing to the county.

**PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 2725 authorize the commissioners court of a county to contract with public and private entities for collection services for certain debts.

**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), to provide that this article does not limit the authority of a county to contract with a public or private vendor for the provision of collection services under Article 103.0031.

SECTION 2. Amends Article 103.0031, Code of Criminal Procedure, to authorize the commissioners court of a county to enter into a contract with a public or private vendor for the provision of collection services for debts and accounts receivable such as fines, fees, restitution, bond forfeitures, and other debts or costs ordered to be paid by a court serving the county. Authorizes a commissioners court that enters into a contract under this article with a private attorney to authorize the addition of attorney's fees on each debt or account receivable referred to the attorney for collection, in an amount not to exceed 33 percent of the account or debt. Makes a conforming change.

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