

- SUBJECT:** Requiring TDCJ to report quarterly on inmate grievances
- COMMITTEE:** Corrections — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 7 ayes — White, Allen, S. Davis, Romero, Sanford, Schaefer, Tinderholt  
0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Nicholas Hudson, American Civil Liberties Union of Texas; Shane Johnson, Austin Justice Coalition; Chris Kaiser, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault; Wallis Nader, Texas Civil Rights Project; Mary Kate Bevel, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition; Robert Elzner and Jennifer Erschabek, Texas Inmate Families Association; Yannis Banks, Texas NAACP; Lucia Quigtar-Hamilton; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Annette Price, Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable; Jose Rodriguez and Charleston White, Hyped about HYPE Youth Outreach; Scott Henson, Just Liberty; Gyl Switzer, Mental Health America of Texas; Darwin Hamilton, Reentry Advocacy Project; Mary Sue Molnar, Texas Voices for Reason and Justice; Lauren Oertel; Wolf Sittler; Gary Wardian)
- Against — None
- On — Bryan Collier, Texas Department of Criminal Justice; Michele Deitch; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Oscar Mendoza, Texas Department of Criminal Justice)
- DIGEST:** CSHB 1421 would require the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to submit a quarterly report about inmate grievances to the governor, lieutenant governor, the state auditor, and each member of the Legislature. The report would have to include the number and types of inmate grievances received by the department and would be aggregated and disaggregated by individual correctional facility.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES: A companion bill, SB 485 by Miles, was referred February 6 to the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice.