

- SUBJECT:** Allowing courts to access driver financial responsibility information
- COMMITTEE:** Insurance — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Lucio, Oliverson, S. Davis, Julie Johnson, Lambert, Paul, C. Turner, Vo
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — G. Bonnen
- WITNESSES:** For — Nicholas Chu, Justice of the Peace and Constables Association; Gary Janssen; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Guadalupe Cuellar, City of El Paso; Jeff Coyle, City of San Antonio; Bobby Gutierrez and Jama Pantel, Justices of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas; Deanna L. Kuykendall, Texas Municipal Courts Association; JJ Rocha, Texas Municipal League; Alexis Tatum, Travis County Commissioners Court; Charles Lanterman)
- Against — None
- On — Mark Worman, Texas Department of Insurance
- BACKGROUND:** Transportation Code ch. 601, subch. N establishes a financial responsibility verification program implemented by the Texas Department of Insurance and other agencies for the verification of whether owners of motor vehicles have established financial responsibility.
- It has been suggested that giving justice or municipal courts access to this program would provide a more efficient process for verifying motor vehicle liability insurance coverage.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 196 would authorize a justice or municipal court to access the financial responsibility verification program for owners of motor vehicles to verify financial responsibility for the purpose of court proceedings.

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This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.