

**SUBJECT:** Amending procedures related to grand juries

**COMMITTEE:** Criminal Jurisprudence — committee substitute recommended

**VOTE:** 9 ayes — Moody, Cook, Bhojani, Bowers, Darby, Harrison, Leach, Morales, Schatzline  
0 nays

**WITNESSES:** For — Lisa David, County & District Clerk Association (*Registered, but did not testify*; Philip Mack Furlow, 106th Judicial District Attorney; David Trantham, Denton County)  
  
Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*; Shea Place, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association)

**BACKGROUND:** Some have suggested that clarifying and updating certain administrative procedures related to grand juries would benefit district courts.

**DIGEST:** CSHB 4671 would amend certain processes regarding grand jurors. The bill would grant the clerk of a district court the authority to summon a grand jury in the same manner as a sheriff.  
  
The bill also would amend language concerning qualifications for grand jurors, specifying that a grand jury candidate must have never been convicted of a misdemeanor theft or felony.  
  
The bill would require a district court clerk, on the third business day of each month, to prepare a list of names of people who in the preceding month were disqualified from serving on a grand jury on the basis of citizenship or conviction or indictment for a misdemeanor theft or felony. The clerk would then be required to send a copy of the list to the secretary of state.  
  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to the summoning of grand jurors on or after the effective date.

