BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R3688 GWK-D S.B. 232 By: Ellis Jurisprudence 2/24/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the Texas Government Code does not require those responsible for supervising defendants to notify the authority which originally placed those defendants on community supervision or parole of the completion of a period of supervision. The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure makes defendants liable for fines stemming from their cases; however, because of the relocation of defendants, the collection rate for fines is only 61 percent for county courts and 26 percent for district courts. To increase fine collection rates, this bill would require the supervising departments to promptly notify the convicting court of defendants' new status of freedom.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 232 requires community supervision and corrections departments to promptly notify certain courts of a defendant's completion of community supervision or parole.

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 Chapter 76, Government Code, by adding Section 76.020, as follows:

Sec. 76.020. NOTIFICATION TO COURT OF COMPLETION OF SUPERVISION. Requires a community supervision and corrections department which supervises a defendant to promptly notify the appropriate court of the defendant's completion of community supervision.

SECTION 2. Amends Chapter 508J, Government Code, by adding Section 508.330, as follows:

Sec. 508.330. NOTIFICATION TO COURT OF COMPLETION OF SUPERVISION. Requires a community supervision and corrections department to notify the appropriate clerk that a release has completed parole or mandatory supervision.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.