

81st Legislative Session-Selected Bills

TACA LAW STUDY COMMITTEE

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<http://www.epcounty.com/auditor/ed/info.html>

[Government Code Sec. 51.607. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW OR AMENDED COURT COSTS AND FEES.](#)

Bill	Last Action:	Caption:	Fee Effective	Old Fee	New Fee	Comments
HB 107	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to allowing for certain criminal proceedings in the absence of certain defendants.				Savings to counties related to transportation and incarceration costs would vary and would depend on the number of defendants in a penal institution who choose to waive the right to be present at the rendering of the judgment and sentence.
HB 144	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to an additional filing fee for civil cases filed in Bexar County.	6/19/2009		\$15.00	to collect a filing fee of not more than \$15 in each civil case filed in the court to be used for the construction, renovation, or improvement of the facilities that house the Bexar County civil and criminal courts.
HB 598	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the information displayed on certain licenses.				Judges can use the courthouse address on their driver's license
HB 609	05/13/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the composition of the jury in certain adjudication hearings in juvenile court.				Provides that a juvenile jury trial for a misdemeanor offense will consist of 6 jurors
HB 666	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to certain costs used to fund drug court programs.	1/1/2010	\$50.00	\$60.00	increase an existing \$50 drug court cost, which is currently assessed on the conviction of certain intoxication and drug offenses, to \$60 for drug and alcohol related offenses as listed in the Penal Code, Chapter 49 and the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481.
HB 765	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to supplemental payments made to certain statutory probate court judges.				Notwithstanding any other law and in addition to the judge 's annual salary, the commissioners court annually shall pay a judge of a statutory probate court who has continuously served as a judge of a statutory probate court or a statutory county court since August 31, 1995, an additional amount equal to the amount of benefit replacement pay a district judge is entitled to receive from the state under Subchapter H, Chapter 659, for equivalent continuous service. The commissioners court monthly shall pay a statutory probate court judge who has served as a judge of a statutory probate court or a statutory county court for at least 16 years longevity pay in an amount equal to the amount of longevity pay a district judge is entitled to receive from the state for equivalent years of service. The longevity pay is in addition to the judge 's monthly salary.
HB 987	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to competitive procurement requirements for local governments.				<p>§262.0245. Competitive Procurement Procedures Adopted by County Purchasing Agents. A county purchasing agent shall adopt procedures that provide for competitive procurement, to the extent practicable under the circumstances, for the county purchase of an item that is not subject to competitive procurement.</p> <p>§271.024. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT [BIDDING] PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO CONTRACT. If a governmental entity is required by statute to award a contract for the construction, repair, or renovation of a structure, road, highway, or other improvement or addition to real property on the basis of competitive bids, and if the contract requires the expenditure of more than \$ 50,000 from the funds of the entity, the bidding on the contract must be accomplished in the manner provided by this subchapter.</p> <p>§271.054. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT [BIDDING] REQUIREMENT. Before the governing body of an issuer may enter into a contract requiring an expenditure by or imposing an obligation or liability on the issuer, or on a subdivision of the issuer if the issuer is a county, of more than \$50,000, the governing body must submit the proposed contract to competitive procurement.</p> <p>§271.159. No Recovery of Attorney's Fees-Repealed, SUBCHAPTER J. DESIGN-BUILD PROCEDURES FOR CERTAIN CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS.</p> <p>§271.182. APPLICABILITY -Now reads: This subchapter applies to a local governmental entity with a population of more than 100,000 within its geographic boundaries or service area. [Authorizes any local governmental entity with a population greater than 100,000 to use the design-build procurement method at any time]</p>
HB 1259	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to hiring outside legal counsel to provide legal services to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.				Allows e-filing in criminal cases for defendants
HB 1282	05/20/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the penalty for theft of a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or personal identification certificate.				New Class B Offense for stealing Driver's License

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HB 1544	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to court proceedings for a plea of guilty or nolo contendere for a misdemeanor punishable by fine only.				allows a new "special expense fee" in courts equal to the amounts that a defendant who is granted deferred adjudication in misdemeanor cases would have been ordered to pay if a guilty finding was entered.
HB 1665	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the penalty imposed on defaulting jurors.	9/1/2009	\$10-\$100	\$100-\$500	increases the amounts that no-show jurors may be fined to not less than \$100 and not more than \$500.
HB 1861	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the operation and administration of the judiciary in the event of a disaster.				Provides for suspension of certain procedural and filing deadlines in the event of an emergency declaration; suggests Local Rules should provide for COOP plan
HB 1960	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the payment for an appearance as a witness for certain peace officers and firefighters.				requires counties to pay peace officers they employ for appearances as witnesses in court cases if their appearance is required and made on off duty time. Such payments may be taxed as court costs in civil suits only.
HB 2386	05/27/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the sealing of juvenile records.				Sealing of juvenile records authorized if a juvenile completes a drug court program or if found not guilty...can occur without hearing
HB 2835	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the delegation of duties of a county judge in certain counties.				LGC, Title 3, Ch 81 is amended by adding section 81.029: DELEGATION OF DUTIES OF A COUNTY JUDGE IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a county judge in a county that has a population of more than 600,000 and is located on the international border. (b) A county judge may file an order with the commissioners court of the county delegating to a county commissioner of the commissioners court the ability to sign orders or other official documents associated with the county judge's office. The delegating order must clearly indicate the types of orders or official documents that the county commissioner may sign on behalf of the county judge. (c) A county judge may file a standing order of emergency delegation of authority that clearly indicates the types of orders or official documents that the county commissioner may sign on behalf of the county judge in the event of an emergency or disaster. (d) An order or official document signed by the county commissioner under the delegated authority of the county judge under this section has the same effect as an order of the county judge. (e) The county judge may at any time revoke the delegated authority or transfer the authority to a different county commissioner by filing an order with the commissioners court.
HB 2859	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to notice requirements for a county selling surplus or salvage property.				§263.153 Notice (c) A county that contracts with an auctioneer licensed under Chapter 1802, Occupations Code, who uses an Internet auction site offering online bidding through the Internet to sell surplus or salvage property under this subchapter having an estimated value of not more than \$500 shall satisfy the notice requirement under this section by posting the property on the site for at least 10 days unless the property is sold before the 10th day. The use of an online auction site enables a county to increase its return on surplus and salvage assets without risking further depreciation. There is a potential cost savings in allowing a county to satisfy the notice requirements by posting property for sale (under \$500.00) on an online auction site, instead of a general circulation newspaper
HB 3089	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the disposition of vehicles by a local government participating in a program designed to encourage the use of low-emission vehicles.				CHAPTER 263. SALE OR LEASE OF PROPERTY BY COUNTIES., SUBCHAPTER D. DISPOSITION OF SALVAGE OR SURPLUS PROPERTY §263.152 DISPOSITION, ; or (a)(6) order any vehicle retired under a program designed to encourage the use of low-emission vehicles to be crushed and recycled, if practicable, without a competitive bid or auction.

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HB 3389	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education; providing civil and administrative penalties.				doesn't add or increase any fees, but it does add new reporting requirements on local law enforcement agencies who received state training funds from TCLEOSE. Since these training funds are a constant source of list-serve comments, I think that this bill is worth noting.
HB 3389	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education; providing civil and administrative penalties.	1/1/2010		\$0.10	relates to a defendant convicted of a moving violation. The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 102, by adding Article 102.022, establishing a new \$.10 fee for convictions of moving violations in a justice court, county court, county court at law, or municipal court to be remitted to the comptroller and deposited in the Civil Justice Repository fund. The funds are to be used only by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.
HB 3433	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the extended registration of a commercial fleet of motor vehicles.				The bill would require an annual fleet management fee of \$10 per fleet vehicle, a one-time license plate manufacturing fee of \$1.50 or each set of plates or \$8 for each set of plates with the name or logo of the business entity, and the advance payment of all registration license taxes and fees for a period of no less than one year and no greater than 8 years. Under the provisions of the bill, no annual validation window sticker would be required for the vehicles during the period of years for which fees have been paid in advance.
HB 3601	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the authority of a county clerk to post official and legal notices by electronic display.				County Clerk may display notices electronically
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010		\$4.00	The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 102, adding Article 102.0169, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in county court, statutory county court, or district court. The fee will apply in all county court, statutory county court or district court convictions. The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, §102.041, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in district court; The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, §102.081, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in county court. The fee must be deposited into the county treasury in a fund to be known as the county and district court technology fund and administered by or under the direction of the commissioners court of the county.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010	\$5.00	\$10.00	The bill amends Local Government Code, §133.153(a), to increase the Filing fee for statutory and constitutional courts from \$5.00 to \$10. The bill amends Government Code, §101.1214(10) and §101.1214(11), to increase the Filing fee for county courts from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for indigent. The bill amends Local Government Code, §101.0814, adding conforming language to increase the filing fee for filing any civil action or proceeding from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for the indigent. The bill amends Local Government Code, §101.1013, to increase the Filing fee for any civil action Filed in a statutory probate court from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for indigent.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010	\$2.00	\$6.00	and the Filing fee for justice of the peace courts from \$2.00 to \$6.00.

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HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010		\$10.00	The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 51, adding §51.708, to create an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in each civil case filed in the court to be used for court record preservation in the county and retained locally in a court record preservation account in the county treasury. The funds in the account may be used only to digitize court records and preserve the records from natural disasters. The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.06117, to create an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases filed in district court to fund the preservation of court records. The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.08115, to establishing an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases filed in statutory county courts cases to fund the preservation of court records.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010	\$37.00	\$42.00	and increases the additional Filing fee from \$37 to \$42 to be used for court-related purposes for the support of the judiciary.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010		\$10.00	The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.12124, establishing an additional Filing fee in county courts not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases to fund the preservation of court records.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010	\$2.00	\$6.00	The bill amends Government Code, §101.141(b), to increase the Filing fee for justice courts from \$2.00 to \$6.00 court to fund civil legal services for indigent.
HB 3637	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to filing fees in civil actions and proceedings and the use of those fees, to costs on conviction in certain courts, to money paid into the registry of a court in certain counties, and to the appointment of counsel in certain suits.	1/1/2010	\$5.00	\$50.00	and increases the juvenile delinquency prevention and graffiti eradication fee from \$5.00 to \$50
HB 4424	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to operations fees and child support service fees assessed by domestic relations offices.				Clarifies that the DRO fee can be charged on modifications
HB 4529	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to court reporter service fees in certain counties.		\$15.00	\$30.00	Official Court Reporter Serving the Texas-Mexico Border Effective June 19, 2009. The bill amends Government Code, §103.0211, adding conforming language to require a court reporter service fee of \$30 in specified counties.
HB 4718	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the fees assessed in certain cases filed in the Ector County courts at law.				The fees assessed in a case in which a county court at law has concurrent civil jurisdiction with the district court are the same as the fees that would be assessed in the district court for that case.
HB 4833	06/19/2009 E See remarks for effective date	Relating to the creation of district courts and statutory county courts and to the composition of juvenile boards in certain counties.			\$1,000.00	amends Health and Safety Code, adding Chapter 617, to create a Veterans Court Program. The bill allows a participant in the program to pay a reasonable program fee not to exceed \$1,000; and a testing, counseling, and treatment fee in an amount necessary to cover the costs of any testing, counseling, or treatment performed or provided under the program.
HB 1230	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to limitations on the compensation of county auditors for certain counties.				Auditor can be paid more than the highest paid elected official with the approval of the Commissioners Court
SB 61	05/29/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the offense of failing to secure a child passenger in a motor vehicle and to fines for the offense.			\$0.15	changes the range of fines for child safety seat violations from "not more than \$100" to "not more than \$25 for the first offense to not more than \$250 for subsequent offenses. It also add a new "Child Safety Seat Fund" court cost to convictions of the child safety seat laws. This is a 15 cent per conviction court cost and it is my nomination for the most worthless law for a good cause passed this session. It's only expected to raise \$40,000 or so statewide, so it's not going to be worth the trouble it will take to administer. amends Transportation Code, §545.412, by amending subsections (a) and (b) and adding subsection (b-1) that adds an additional \$0.15 as a court cost on conviction for failing to secure a child passenger in a motor vehicle. The fee is to be remitted to the comptroller. The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.104, which is conforming language to create an additional \$0.15 on court costs on convictions in justice courts.

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SB 82	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to a fee imposed as a condition of community supervision for an offense involving family violence and to certain nonsubstantive revisions involving court fees.		\$10.00	\$20.00	amends Government Code, §103.021, adding conforming language to: require a defendant to pay a fee for requesting a driving record from the Department of Public Safety in an amount equal to the sum of the fee established by Transportation Code, §521.048 (Certified Information), and the TexasOnline fee, rather than current \$10 fee; require a defendant to pay a fee for a teen court program (Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 45.052) of \$20
SB 727	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the creation of DNA records for the DNA database system.			\$34.00	amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 102.020, by adding subsections (a)(3), and (j) to require a person to pay \$34 on placement of the person on community supervision, including deferred adjudication community supervision, if the person is required to submit a DNA sample under Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 42.12, §11(j), and the court may waive a court cost under this article if the court determines that the defendant is indigent and unable to pay the cost.
SB 727	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the creation of DNA records for the DNA database system.			\$50.00	amends Family Code, Chapter 54, adding §54.0462, to require a juvenile court in certain cases to order the child, parent or other persons responsible for the child's support to pay to the court as a cost of court a \$50 fee if the disposition of the case includes a commitment to a facility operated by or under contract with the Texas youth Commission, and a \$34 fee if the disposition of the case does not include a commitment and the child is required to submit a DNA sample. The fee may be waived if the court determines that the child, parent or other persons responsible for the child's support is unable to pay the fee.
SB 174	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to accountability of institutions of higher education, including educator preparation programs, and online institution resumes for public institutions of higher education.				Notice of fee must be posted in District Clerk's Office with specific language: "THE COMMISSIONERS COURTS OF LUBBOCK COUNTY HAS DETERMINED THAT A RECORDS ARCHIVE FEE OF \$___ IS NEEDED TO PRESERVE AND RESTORE DISTRICT COURT RECORDS."
SB 175	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the automatic admission of undergraduate students to certain general academic teaching institutions and to scholarship and other programs to facilitate enrollment at institutions of higher education.				Excess fees after completion of a project may be used for records management and preservation purposes authorized under 51.317(d).
SB 1969	Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to nonsubstantive additions to and correction in enacted codes, to the nonsubstantive codification or disposition of various laws omitted from enacted codes, to conforming codifications, and repeal of unconstitutional			\$20.00	(E)AAsupplemental court-initiated guardianship fee (Secs. 118.052 and 118.067, Local Government Code) .A.A. \$20;
SB 1969	Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to nonsubstantive additions to and correction in enacted codes, to the nonsubstantive codification or disposition of various laws omitted from enacted codes, to conforming codifications, and repeal of unconstitutional			\$500.00	fees for a pretrial intervention program: (A)AAa supervision fee (Art. 102.012(a) 17 S.B.ANo.A1969, 141 [102.012], Code of Criminal Procedure) .A.A. [not to exceed] \$60 a month plus expenses; and (B)AAa district attorney, criminal district attorney, or county attorney administrative fee (Art. 102.0121, Code of Criminal Procedure) .A.A. not to exceed \$500;
SB 1969	Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to nonsubstantive additions to and correction in enacted codes, to the nonsubstantive codification or disposition of various laws omitted from enacted codes, to conforming codifications, and repeal of unconstitutional		\$10.00	\$20.00	(3)AAadministrative fee on remediation of charge of driving with an expired inspection certificate (Sec. 548.605, Transportation Code) .A.A. not to exceed \$20 [10];
SB 229	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the procurement methods authorized for public projects by certain local governments.				Now reads: (c) This subchapter applies to a municipally owned combined electric, water, and wastewater utility situated in an economically distressed area and located within 30 miles of the Lower Texas Gulf Coast. For this subchapter, "combined" means that the utilities are managed and controlled by one board whose members are appointed by the governing body of the municipality and that the financing of capital improvements is secured from the revenues of all three utilities.
SB 281	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the confidentiality of the home address information of the spouses of certain federal judges and certain state judges.				Adds judges' spouses to the list whose addresses can be kept confidential
SB 397	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to methods of payment for reimbursement of jury service expenses.				LGC, Title 3, CH 113, section 113.048. Allows for alternative methods of juror reimbursement (debit cards, etc)
SB 409	05/27/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to fees charged by a justice of the peace for certain documents in a criminal case.		5		amends Local Government Code, §118.124, by adding subsection (5) to provide that a justice is not entitled to a fee for the first copy of a document in a criminal case issued to a criminal defendant, an attorney representing the defendant, or a prosecuting attorney.

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SB 414	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to conducting by electronic means a hearing to determine a defendant's ability to discharge certain fines and court costs.				For purposes of a hearing described by Subsection (a), a defendant may be brought before the court in person or by means of an electronic broadcast system through which an image of the defendant is presented to the court. For purposes of this subsection, "electronic broadcast system" means a two-way electronic communication of image and sound between the defendant and the court and includes secure Internet videoconferencing.
SB 415	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the court in which certain persons charged with misdemeanors punishable by fine only may be arraigned.				Provides that individuals charged with misdemeanors punishable by fine only should appear before the JP or municipal court (current statute says county court or statutory county court)
SB 497	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to compensation paid to certain judges and justices.				Longevity pay for judges is calculated at 0.031 x current monthly state salary (current statute is \$20 per year of service). Provides that Commissioners Court may provide longevity pay using the same calculation for judges who were CCAL judges first and who otherwise do not qualify for the longevity pay.
SB 543	05/20/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to certain possessory liens; providing a criminal penalty.				adds a provision not in the original requiring a holder of a worker's possessory lien on a motor vehicle, other than a person licensed as a franchised dealer, to file a copy of the notice and all required information with the county tax assessor-collector's office and establishing an administrative fee of \$25.
SB 638	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the collateralization of certain public funds; providing administrative penalties.				CHAPTER 2257. COLLATERAL FOR PUBLIC FUNDS SUBCHAPTER C. CUSTODIAN; PERMITTED INSTITUTION § 2257.041. DEPOSIT OF SECURITIES WITH CUSTODIAN S.B. 638 Amends Subsection 2257.041 to read as follows: (d) A custodian must be approved by the public entity and be: (4) a federal home loan bank ; or (5) a financial institution authorized to exercise fiduciary powers that is designated by the comptroller as a custodian pursuant to Section 404.031(e). S.B. 638 adds subchapter F to read as follows: SUBCHAPTER F. POOLED COLLATERAL TO SECURE DEPOSITS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC FUNDS This subchapter adds Sections 2257.101 through 2257.114, which detail the establishment of a permissive pooled collateral program. Historically, a public entity depositing funds with financial institutions in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limits was required to receive a pledge of securities having a market value greater than that of the deposits. This system required each entity to have its deposits collateralized individually, even if a financial institution held deposits from several different entities. This bills establishment of the permissive pooled collateral program, provides for the centralization of the collateral function in a pool to be tracked and verified to meet state requirements, and requires the comptroller to be responsible for the implementation of such a program.
SB 658	05/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the creation of an appellate judicial system for the Sixth Court of Appeals District.	1/1/2010		\$5.00	To fund the system, the commissioners court shall set a court costs fee of \$5 for each civil suit filed in county court, statutory county court, probate court, or district court in the county.
SB 659	05/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the creation of an appellate judicial system for the Twelfth Court of Appeals District.	1/1/2010		\$5.00	To fund the system, the commissioners court shall set a court costs fee of \$5 for each civil suit filed in county court, statutory county court, probate court, or district court in the county.

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SB 1068	06/04/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to allowing a governmental body to redact certain personal information under the public information law without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general and allowing information about a public officer or public employee to be withheld if disclosure would pose a substantial risk of physical harm.				GC, Ch 552, Section 552.008, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2), Section 552.024, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (c-1) and (c-2), Section 552.1175, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (f), (g), and (h), Section 552.138, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e), Subchapter C, Chapter 552, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 552.151, EXCEPTION: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OR OFFICER PERSONAL SAFETY
SB 1091	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the establishment of the capital writs committee and the office of capital writs and to the appointment and compensation of certain counsel for indigent defendants in a capital case.				Establishes the Office of Capital Writs. Provides procedures for District Courts to appoint them.
SB 1112	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the provision of money from a county's general fund to disaster victims.				LGC, Title 3, Ch 130, Subchapter Z, Chapter 130, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 130.910 to read as follows: Sec. 130.910. AID TO DISASTER VICTIMS. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), the commissioners court of a county may provide money from the general fund of the county to individual residents of the county who are adversely affected by a disaster for which the county judge declared a local state of disaster under Section 418.108, Government Code. (b) A county may not provide assistance to an individual under this section until the commissioners court of the county: (1) has implemented policies and procedures to ensure that money granted under this section is used for the public purpose of providing disaster relief for emergency food, shelter, transportation, or other items or services necessary for public health and safety; and (2) has determined that financial assistance from other sources, including this state and the federal government, is unavailable or inadequate.
SB 1142	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the authority with whom campaign finance reports must be filed in connection with a judicial district office filled by the voters of only one county.				Judges with one county jurisdiction are no longer required to file campaign finance reports with both the TEC and County Clerk, only with TEC (place where treasurer filing is required)
SB 1152	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the making or acceptance of political contributions in a courthouse; providing penalties.				Judges cannot receive political contributions in the Courthouse (except by mail)
SB 1208	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the creation of an appellate judicial system for the Seventh Court of Appeals District.	1-Jan-10		\$5.00	amends Government Code, Chapter 22, by adding §22.2081, to create an appellate judicial system for the Seventh Court of Appeals District. To fund the system, the county commissioners court in each county in the Seventh District is required to set a court fee of \$5.00 for each civil suit Filed in county court, county court at law, probate court or district court in the county.
SB 1224	05/23/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to a waiver of fees imposed for certain expunctions.				The fees under Subsection (a) shall be waived if: (1) the petitioner seeks expunction of a criminal record that relates to an arrest for an offense of which the person was acquitted, other than an acquittal for an offense described by Article 55.01(c); and (2) the petition for expunction is filed not later than the 30th day after the date of the acquittal.
SB 1235	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the sale and use of unregistered vehicles, including the issuance and use of temporary tags on vehicles.				(1) the petitioner seeks expunction of a criminal record that relates to an arrest for an offense of which the person was acquitted, other than an acquittal for an offense described by Article 55.01(c); and

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[Government Code Sec. 51.607. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW OR AMENDED COURT COSTS AND FEES.](#)

Bill	Last Action:	Caption:	Fee Effective	Old Fee	New Fee	Comments
SB 1356	05/27/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to a fee associated with the assignment of a vehicle identification number by the Texas Department of Transportation.				If the auto theft unit of a county or municipal law enforcement agency conducts an inspection required by the department under this section, the agency may impose a fee of \$40. The county or municipal treasurer shall credit the fee to the general fund of the county or municipality, as applicable, to defray the agency's cost associated with the inspection. The fee shall be waived by the department or agency imposing the fee if the person applying under this section is the current registered owner.
SB 1369	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the appointment of attorneys ad litem and to court-appointed volunteer advocates in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.				Local Administrative Judge is required to establish list of attorneys ad litem, which must contain the names of those attorneys who meet the statutory requirements and register to serve. Judges must appoint attorneys ad litem from this list, using the top listed name. That name then goes to the bottom of the list. List and appointment procedures begin 12/1/09.
SB 1506	05/26/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the payment of the costs associated with certain conditions of bond.				The cost of electronic monitoring or testing for controlled substances under this article may be assessed as court costs ordered paid directly by the defendant as a condition of bond.
SB 1554	05/27/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the authority of officers in certain counties to designate a person to receive fees, commissions, or costs.				The officer may designate a person to receive the money as fees, commissions, or costs on behalf of the officer under this subsection. The officer or a person designated by the officer to receive the fees, commissions, or costs must make an entry in the record when the fees, commissions, or costs are earned and when they are received.
SB 1571	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the issuance of certain permits for overweight vehicles.				an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on a roadway owned and maintained by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority that is located in San Patricio County or Nueces County.
SB 1574	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the requirement that the county clerk of certain counties prepare a written records management and preservation services plan.				LGC, Title 3, CH 118, Subsection (e), Section 118.0216, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows: All expenditures from the records management and preservation account shall comply with Subchapter C, Chapter 262. The change in law made by this Act to Subsection (e), Section 118.0216, Local Government Code, applies only to a requirement that a county clerk prepare an annual written plan on or after the effective date of this Act. A plan adopted before the effective date of this Act and expenditures under that plan are subject to the requirements of Subsection (e), Section 118.0216, Local Government Code, as that law existed on the date the plan was adopted, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
SB 1575	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the random assignment of criminal and civil cases in district courts in Hidalgo County.				This subchapter provides an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on a roadway owned and maintained by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority that is located in San Patricio County or Nueces County. Fees collected under Subsection (a) shall be used solely for the construction and maintenance of port authority roadways.
SB 1616	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the fees for and issuance of certain license plates.				The fee for issuance of a personalized license plate issued before September 1, 2009, is \$40, unless the director adopts by rule a higher fee.
SB 1675	05/27/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to donations of juror reimbursements.				Juror donations - need to describe programs on the letter. Requires that the form letter provided under Subsection (a) (regarding entitlements to reimbursement for a person reporting for jury duty) contain a brief description of the programs designated for donation under that subsection.

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Bill	Last Action:	Caption:	Fee Effective	Old Fee	New Fee	Comments
SB 1685	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the creation of a district court records technology fund.	9/1/2009		\$5.00	<p>Establishes the District Court Archives fee of not more than \$5 per on civil filings (suit, appeal from inferior court, cross-action, counterclaim, intervention, contempt action, motion for new trial, or third-party petition) in District Court as part of the County's Annual Budget. Fee must be set and included as part of County's Budget process and must be approved in public meeting. Fee is for the preservation and restoration services in connection with maintaining a district court archive.</p> <p>The main purpose of this fee is to digitize records for archiving purposes. District Clerk must designate court documents that are part of the archive, subject to Commissioners Court approval in public meeting. District Clerk must prepare annual written plan for the preservation and restoration of district court records archive. Commissioners Court must publish notice of public hearing on the plan not later than the 15th day before the hearing.</p> <p>Notice of fee must be posted in District Clerk's Office with specific language: "THE COMMISSIONERS COURTS OF _____ COUNTY HAS DETERMINED THAT A RECORDS ARCHIVE FEE OF \$___ IS NEEDED TO PRESERVE AND RESTORE DISTRICT COURT RECORDS."</p> <p>Excess fees after completion of a project may be used for records management and preservation purposes authorized under 51.317(d). Commissioners Court cannot authorize fee after project is complete.</p>
SB 1711	05/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the use of reservoirs for sediment control or to satisfy certain environmental and safety requirements at surface mining operations.				The main purpose of this fee is to digitize records for archiving purposes.
SB 1723	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to an informational manual for voluntary caregivers who provide temporary care for children who are the subject of an investigation by the Department of Family and Protective Services.				District Clerk must designate court documents that are part of the archive, subject to Commissioners Court approval in public meeting. District Clerk must prepare annual written plan for the preservation and restoration of district court records archive.
SB 1729	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the terms of student members of certain Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board advisory committees.				Commissioners Court must publish notice of public hearing on the plan not later than the 15th day before the hearing.
SB 1757	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to a study by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality of methods for disposing of unused pharmaceuticals so that they do not enter a wastewater system.				Commissioners Court cannot authorize fee after project is complete.
SB 1759	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the extended registration of a commercial fleet of motor vehicles.				The bill would require an annual fleet management fee of \$10 per fleet vehicle, a one-time license plate manufacturing fee of \$1.50 or each set of plates or \$8 for each set of plates with the name or logo of the business entity, and the advance payment of all registration license taxes and fees for a period of no less than one year and no greater than 8 years. Under the provisions of the bill, no annual validation window sticker would be required for the vehicles during the period of years for which fees have been paid in advance.
SB 1774	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to the disposal of certain exhibits used in criminal proceedings in certain counties.				Provides that clerks may dispose of criminal exhibits by delivering to Purchasing Agent if not requested by the state or defense by certain date
SB 1940	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the fund for veterans' assistance and to the establishment of pretrial veterans court programs.				The bill would authorize a county to establish a veterans court program for persons arrested for, charged with, or convicted of both misdemeanor and felony offenses. A veterans court program created under the bill would be required to have certain characteristics, including provision of various treatment and service programs. The bill would allow a court to dismiss a criminal case if the defendant successfully completes a veterans court program, under certain conditions. A veterans court program is authorized to collect reasonable program fees, not to exceed \$1,000 to cover costs. Fees may be used only for the veterans court program.

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Bill	Last Action:	Caption:	Fee Effective	Old Fee	New Fee	Comments
SB 2048	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to the establishment of a centralized sex offender registration authority in certain counties in this state.				Provides that a Commissioners Court may establish a centralized sex offender registry in counties with 100,000 or more in population. The Centralized Authority is the Sheriff, or through an interlocal agreement, a chief of a police department in the County.
SB 2197	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to fees paid to a constable for serving civil process.				LGC, Title 3, Ch 86, Subsection (d), Section 86.021, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows: (d) Regardless of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, all civil process may be served by a constable in the constable's county or in a county contiguous to the constable's county, except that a constable who is a party to or interested in the outcome of a suit may not serve any process related to the suit. All civil process served by a constable at any time or place is presumed to be served in the constable's official capacity if under the law the constable may serve that process in the constable's official capacity. A constable may not under any circumstances retain a fee paid for serving civil process in the constable's official capacity other than the constable's regular salary or compensation. Any fee paid to a constable for serving civil process in the constable's official capacity shall be deposited with the county treasurer of the constable's county. The change in law made by this Act applies only to civil process served by a constable on or after the effective date of this Act. Civil process served by a constable before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.
SB 2340	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately. On offenses committed after 9/1/09	Relating to electronic monitoring and other alternative means for certain defendants to discharge a fine or costs or satisfy a term of confinement in county jail.				The bill would authorize a county commissioners court to operate an electronic monitoring program or to contract with a private vendor to operate a program. The requirements of operation and oversight of the program would be established by provisions of the bill. The bill would require certain defendants that are unable to pay a fine and court costs, and are mentally and physically capable, or are confined in jail after a felony conviction, to perform certain types of manual labor in a workhouse or a county farm established by a commissioners court under the supervision of a sheriff. A defendant that performs manual labor would have one day deducted from each sentence being served. Clarifies that electronic monitoring may be used for laying out court costs, fines, fees, etc or for serving sentence
SB 2438	06/19/2009 E Effective immediately	Relating to imposing a duty on a sheriff to report certain warrant or capias information to a national database.				Requires sheriff to report warrants/capias to NCIC within 30 days
SB 82	06/19/2009 E Effective on 9/1/09	Relating to a fee imposed as a condition of community supervision for an offense involving family violence and to certain nonsubstantive revisions involving court fees.				makes the currently optional \$100 Family Violence Center fee for defendants who are granted probation after conviction of a family violence crime an mandatory. it also has some teen court fees for counties in the "Texas-Louisiana border region", and it adds a DA fee not to exceed \$500 for people granted pre-trial diversion. The pre-trial diversion fee sounds identical to an optional fee that was passed 2 years ago.