

1-1 By: Price, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2955
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 24, 2019;
 1-3 April 29, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on State
 1-4 Affairs; May 14, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 14, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to oversight of specialty court programs.
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-21 SECTION 1. Section 121.002, Government Code, is amended by
 1-22 amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding Subsections (f) and (g)
 1-23 to read as follows:
 1-24 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, a specialty court
 1-25 program may not operate until the judge, magistrate, or
 1-26 coordinator:
 1-27 (1) provides to the Office of Court Administration of
 1-28 the Texas Judicial System [~~criminal justice division of the~~
 1-29 ~~governor's office~~]:
 1-30 (A) written notice of the program;
 1-31 (B) any resolution or other official declaration
 1-32 under which the program was established; and
 1-33 (C) a copy of the applicable strategic plan that
 1-34 incorporates duties related to supervision that will be required
 1-35 under the program; and
 1-36 (2) receives from the office [~~division~~] written
 1-37 verification of the program's compliance with Subdivision (1).
 1-38 (d) A specialty court program shall:
 1-39 (1) comply with all programmatic best practices
 1-40 recommended by the Specialty Courts Advisory Council under Section
 1-41 772.0061(b)(2) and approved by the Texas Judicial Council; and
 1-42 (2) report to the criminal justice division of the
 1-43 governor's office and the Texas Judicial Council any information
 1-44 required by the division or council regarding the performance of
 1-45 the program.
 1-46 (f) The Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial
 1-47 System shall:
 1-48 (1) on request provide technical assistance to the
 1-49 specialty court programs;
 1-50 (2) coordinate with an entity funded by the criminal
 1-51 justice division of the governor's office that provides services to
 1-52 specialty court programs;
 1-53 (3) monitor compliance of the specialty court programs
 1-54 with the programmatic best practices as required by Subsection
 1-55 (d)(1); and
 1-56 (4) notify the criminal justice division about each
 1-57 specialty court program that is not in compliance with the
 1-58 programmatic best practices as required by Subsection (d)(1).
 1-59 (g) The Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial
 1-60 System shall coordinate with and provide information to the
 1-61 criminal justice division of the governor's office on request of

2-1 the division.

2-2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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