

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1538  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 21, 2025; March 6, 2025,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;  
1-4 May 19, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 19, 2025,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			

1-14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1538 By: Hughes

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to a study on digital court reporting conducted by the  
1-18 Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

1-21 (1) "Digital court reporting" means the act of making  
1-22 a verbatim record of an oral court proceeding, deposition, or  
1-23 proceeding before a grand jury, referee, or court commissioner for  
1-24 use in litigation in the courts of this state through the use of  
1-25 digital technology, electronic recording equipment, or other  
1-26 recording and transcribing technology.

1-27 (2) "Office" means the Office of Court Administration  
1-28 of the Texas Judicial System.

1-29 SECTION 2. DIGITAL COURT REPORTING STUDY. The office shall  
1-30 conduct a study on digital court reporting, including:

1-31 (1) an evaluation of the current use of digital court  
1-32 reporting in the courts of this state, including the cost, access,  
1-33 accuracy, and effectiveness of digital court reporting;

1-34 (2) an analysis of the use of digital court reporting  
1-35 in other states and jurisdictions; and

1-36 (3) recommendations on any necessary changes to  
1-37 statutes, rules, regulations, or standards regarding the use of  
1-38 digital court reporting in this state.

1-39 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than October 1, 2026, the  
1-40 office shall submit a report on the study conducted under this Act  
1-41 to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of  
1-42 representatives, and appropriate standing committees of the  
1-43 legislature.

1-44 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires September 1, 2027.

1-45 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
1-46 1, 2025.

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