

- SUBJECT:** Requiring notices for certain alternative housing program applications
- COMMITTEE:** Corrections — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 7 ayes — White, Allen, S. Davis, Romero, Sanford, Schaefer, Tinderholt  
0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Jeanette Rash; Anibeth Turcios (*Registered, but did not testify*:  
Jessica Anderson, Houston Police Department; Jaime Puente)  
  
Against — None  
  
On — Douglas Smith, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition; Pamela Thielke,  
Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Parole Division
- BACKGROUND:** Concerns have been raised about a lack of notice provided when programs that house releasees (individuals on parole or community supervision) open a new location in an area near schools or day-care facilities.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3697 would require providers applying to participate in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) program to provide alternative housing for five or more unrelated releasees to mail notices to each public school, including open-enrollment charter schools, private schools, or day-care facilities located within 1,000 feet of a proposed alternative housing location. The applicant would be required to submit with the application a list of each school or facility provided notice and an affidavit of the applicant stating that notice had been sent. TDCJ would be required to update its application forms as necessary by December 1, 2017.  
  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2017, and would apply only to applications submitted on or after January 1, 2018.
- NOTES:** A companion bill, SB 1853 by Garcia, was referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee on March 23.