

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R8184 GWK-D

H.B. 788
By: Capelo (Whitmire)
Criminal Justice
4/26/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) is in the process of reengineering the systems and business processes relating to offender information. One aspect of the reengineering initiative is to use technology in order to reduce TDCJ's reliance on paper documents, which may increase efficiency and may enhance public safety. H.B. 788 would establish conditions regarding the electronic transmission of certain information to TDCJ.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 788 establishes conditions regarding the electronic transmission of certain information to Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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 493, Government Code, by adding Section 493.021, as follows:

Sec. 493.021. ELECTRONIC CREATION AND TRANSMISSION OF DOCUMENTS. Authorizes TDCJ, through electronic means, to create and maintain the information that would otherwise be contained in a paper document, if required. Authorizes TDCJ to develop and use an electronic identifier, if necessary, which when used the identifier has the same force and effect as the use of a receipt, signature or seal. Authorizes TDCJ to accept the document in paper form or may accept an electronic transmission for the information otherwise contained in the paper document. Authorizes TDCJ to transmit electronically evidence of delivery, providing certain circumstances. Authorizes TDCJ to use the electronic identifier, and when used by TDCJ, the identifier has the same force and effect as the use of a receipt, signature, or seal. Provides that this section does not authorize TDCJ to require that a person submitting information to TDCJ submit the information electronically.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.