

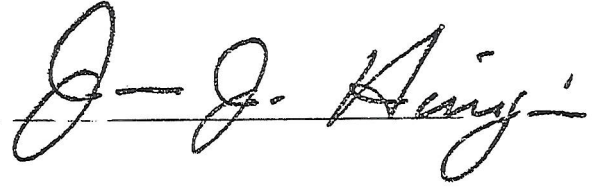
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

WORKGROUP ON
ARTICLES I, IV & V

Article IV Rider Packet
ARTICLE XI RIDERS

March 24, 2015

By: _____



Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council
Proposed Funding and Rider
Regional Public Defender Office for Capital Cases

Prepared by LBB Staff, 2/27/2015

Overview

Increase General Revenue funding to the Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council bill pattern by providing \$4,100,000 each year, or \$8,200,000 for the 2016–17 biennium, to Strategy D.1.1, Texas Indigent Defense Commission, for use by the Commission as a grant to a county for administration and operation of the Regional Public Defender for Capital Case program and establishes eligibility criteria for county participation in the program based on population and location. In addition, add a rider directing the new funds to be used for these purposes.

Required Action

- 1) On page IV-24 of the Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council bill pattern, increase appropriations out of the General Revenue Fund in each fiscal year by \$4,100,000 and increase appropriations in Strategy D.1.1 Texas Indigent Defense Commission.
- 2) On page IV-29 of the Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council bill pattern, add the following rider:

_____. **Regional Public Defender Office for Capital Cases.** Amounts appropriated above in Strategy D.1.1, Texas Indigent Defense Commission include \$4,100,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$4,100,000 in fiscal year 2017 in General Revenue that shall be used by the Commission as a grant to a county for administration and operation of the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases. Participation in the Regional Public Defender Program is limited to a county that:

- (1) Possesses a population as defined in Government Code §312.011(20) of fewer than 300,000; or
- (2) (A) Possesses a population as defined in Government Code §312.011(20) of fewer than 800,000; and
(B) Shares a border with the Republic of Mexico.