

Gavel to Gavel

A review of state legislation affecting the courts

Week ending May 27, 2011

Volume 5, Issue 22

Jurisdiction: Newly Introduced

[Minnesota HB 1753](#) In event of government shutdown, prohibits courts from ruling on what are "essential services" that must be maintained. In House Ways and Means Committee.

[Minnesota SB 1458](#) In event of government shutdown, prohibits courts from ruling on what are "essential services" that must be maintained. In Senate Finance Committee.

Jurisdiction: Floor and Committee Activity

[Maine HB 811](#) Provides "'foreign law, legal code or system" means any law, legal code or legal system of a jurisdiction outside of any state or territory of the United States, including, but not limited to, international organizations and tribunals, that is applied by that jurisdiction's courts, administrative bodies or other formal or informal tribunals...The primary factor that a court, administrative agency, arbitrator, mediator or other entity or person acting under the authority of state law must consider in granting comity to a decision rendered under a foreign law, legal code or legal system against a natural person in this State is whether the decision rendered either violated or would violate any right of the natural person in this State guaranteed by the Constitution of Maine or the United States Constitution or any statute or decision under those constitutions." Rejected by Joint Committee on Judiciary 5/25/11.

Qualifications and Terms: Newly Introduced

NONE

Qualifications and Terms: Floor and Committee Activity

[Alabama SB 266 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Increases mandatory judicial retirement age from 70 to 75. Approved by Senate Judiciary Committee 5/25/11.

[New Hampshire HB 511](#) Clarifies that retired judges over 70 years of age shall not serve as judges in any judicial capacity except as judicial referees. Approved by Senate Judiciary Committee 5/26/11.

[Oregon SB 391](#) Specifies conditions under which tax court magistrate may hold outside office or position of profit or pursue outside calling or vocation. Approved by full House 5/24/11. To Governor for approval.

Rule Making Authority: Newly Introduced

NONE



ADVANCED GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS
Intelligence Analysis Investigative Screening & Identity Verification Research Case Management Digital Asset Management

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Rule Making Authority: Floor and Committee Activity

[California SB 326](#) AS AMENDED: Requires the Judicial Council, in consultation with stakeholder groups, and within 18 months of the date of enactment of this act, to adopt a rule of court to require courts that have fully implemented the California Case Management System to provide timely the public, to the extent possible and practicable, with same-day access to case-initiating civil and criminal court records, as defined. Approved as amended by Senate Appropriations Committee 5/23/11.

[Connecticut HB 6605](#) Requires Judicial Branch amend the annual attorney registration form in order to allow attorneys to indicate whether they maintain professional liability insurance or not. Requires Judicial Branch to indicate on its website the insurance status of attorneys. Approved by full House 5/26/11.

[Nevada SB 194](#) AS AMENDED: Urges the Nevada Supreme Court to amend the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure to require an attorney in such class actions to all the disclosures required pursuant to F.R.C.P. 23 to each member of the class. Approved by Senate Committee on Judiciary 5/25/11.

[North Carolina HB 517](#) AS AMENDED: Creates position of chief magistrate. Provides chief district judge may appoint full time magistrate for county to serve as chief magistrate at chief district judge's pleasure. Modifies current method(s) for discipline of magistrates. Allows resident superior court judge to give notice in cases where defendant has not been tried for 9 months after indictment to hold a trial conference. Approved as amended by House Committee on Judiciary Subcommittee B 5/25/11.

[Texas HB 2847](#) Permits use of video teleconferencing systems for inmate witness testimony, pleas, and other actions. Approved with Senate amendment by full Senate 5/25/11. House concurs with Senate amendment 5/28/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas SB 791](#) Provides rules adopted by the supreme court are to be made available to those requesting the electronically in lieu of paper copies. Approved by full House 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

Salary and Budget: Newly Introduced

[New Hampshire SB 65](#) Clarifies court facilities rents are to be negotiated and paid for by the department of administrative services and not the administrative office of the courts. In House Judiciary Committee.

[New York AB 8007](#) Provides that any grant or gift of money to the unified court system shall be disposed of by the chief administrator of the courts in the manner provided by law. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

[New York SB 5449](#) Provides that any grant or gift of money to the unified court system shall be disposed of by the chief administrator of the courts in the manner provided by law. In Senate Judiciary Committee.

Salary and Budget: Floor and Committee Activity

[California AB 1208](#) AS AMENDED: Deletes existing provision of law that states that the Judicial Council shall retain the ultimate responsibility to adopt a budget and allocate funding for the trial courts and perform specified activities that best assure their ability to carry out their functions, promote implementation of statewide policies,

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and promote the immediate implementation of efficiencies and cost saving measures in court operations, in order to guarantee equal access to the courts. Deletes existing provisions which empower the Judicial Council to authorize a trial court to carry unexpended funds over from one fiscal year to the next, and instead provides that unexpended funds shall be the funds of that trial court, which may carry those unexpended funds over from one fiscal year to the next. Prohibits those funds from being reallocated or redirected without the consent of the management of the trial court. Requires the Judicial Council, or its designee, to allocate 100% of the funds appropriated for support of trial court operations according to each court's share of statewide operational funding. Provides that all funds, once allocated, are funds of the trial court, and authorizes courts to transfer funds between functions, line items or programs as directed by management of the trial court. Deletes existing provisions relating to the manner in which the Judicial Council allocates funding for trial court operations, and instead requires that the amount allocated to each trial court from the amount appropriated for trial court operations be equal to the pro rata share of the prior fiscal year's adjusted base budget, except as provided. Requires the Legislature, based on the information submitted in the Governor's proposed budget, and prior to the allocation of funds to each local trial court, to specify, in each annual Budget Act, the funding amounts to be allocated for programs of statewide concern from the total funds appropriated for trial court operations by the Legislature. Prohibits the Judicial Council, or its designee, from withholding or expending any portion of the total funds appropriated for trial court operations by the Legislature for any statewide information technology or administrative infrastructure program that was not identified in the annual Budget Act, unless the Judicial Council, or its designee, first obtains the written approval of 66 2/3% of a proportional representation of all local trial courts as determined by the number of judges in each court. Approved as amended by Assembly Appropriations Committee 5/27/11.

[California AB 973](#) AS AMENDED: Provides a trial court that proposes to close any courtroom or close or reduce hours of the clerks' office, in the required 60-day advance written notice, to include how the public may provide written comments on the court's closure or reduction plan. Requires the court to review and consider all public comments received, but does not obligate the court to provide responses to comments. Requires the court, if its closure or reduction plan changes as a result of the comments received, to immediately provide notice to the public by posting the revised plan, as provided. Provides that any change in the plan pursuant to the comments does not require additional notification. Requires each trial court, prior to adopting a budget plan for the fiscal year, to provide the public with notice of, and an opportunity for input on, the trial court's proposed budget. Requires that public input be allowed by submission of written comments, and by holding a public hearing, which must allow for public comment and must be conducted in a reasonably accessible location for residents of the county. Does not require the court to provide responses to comments received. Allows the hearing to be conducted at the county courthouse. Requires that at least 10 court days prior to the public hearing, notice of the hearing be given, as provided. Requires that, at least three court days prior to the public hearing, the proposed budget be made available to the public, as provided. Approved as amended by Assembly Committee on Appropriations 5/27/11.

[California SB 384](#) Requires the payment of a single complex case fee on behalf of all plaintiffs in a civil case. Approved as amended by Senate Appropriations Committee 5/26/11.

[Louisiana HB 522](#) Provides deadlines for submission of court cost proposals to the Judicial Council and provides that the review process for court costs and fees shall not apply to mayor's courts, magistrate courts, or justice of the peace courts. Approved by House Judiciary Committee 5/23/11.

[Louisiana HB 530](#) ORIGINAL: Increases court employee contributions, changes from a 3-year to a 5-year Final Average Compensation (FAC), and provides for more restrictive "anti-spiking" provisions for court employees.

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AMENDED: Same but removes more restrictive "anti-spiking" provisions. Approved as amended by House Committee on Retirement 5/25/11.

[Louisiana HB 556](#) AS AMENDED: Increases the special court costs which shall be assessed from \$2 to \$3 for the implementation of an integrated juvenile justice information system. Approved by Senate Committee on Finance 5/23/11. Approved by full Senate 5/25/11. To Governor for approval.

[Minnesota SB 1369](#) Revises judicial and other state employee retirement plans statutory salary scale and payroll growth actuarial assumptions. Approved by Senate State Government Innovation and Veterans Committee 5/21/11.

[Nevada AB 196](#) Requires district courts forward to the county treasurer the necessary information for the collection of the debt of a criminal defendant. Permits county unable to collect the debt to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Office of the State Controller for the purpose of assigning to the Office of the State Controller the responsibility for collecting the debt. Requires a defendant to pay costs and fees associated with the efforts to collect a debt. Assembly concurs with Senate amendment 5/27/11. To Governor for approval.

[Nevada AB 259](#) Transfers fees collected for transfer of cases between courts and recording of documents to legal services programs. Approved by Assembly Ways and Means committee 5/23/11. Approved by full Assembly 5/23/11.

[Nevada AB 276](#) Requires State Controller post all expenditures and revenues of the state "including, without limitation, the operation of the courts of this State." Approved by full Senate 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

[Nevada SB 436](#) Transfers the responsibility to deposit certain money for the purpose of paying pension benefits to justices of the Supreme Court or district judges from the State of Nevada to the Court Administrator. Approved by Assembly Committee on Judiciary 5/25/11.

[Texas HB 2949](#) Removes all authority of the comptroller of public accounts in jointly administering the court collection improvement program developed by a county or municipality to improve the collection of court costs, fees, and fines imposed in criminal cases. Transfer the duties imposed on the comptroller for administering the programs solely (currently, joint with comptroller) to the office of court administration. Approved with Senate amendment by full Senate 5/23/11. House concurs with Senate amendment 5/27/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas SB 1521](#) Includes warrant officers and related equipment in the definition of security personnel, services, and items related to the buildings that house the municipal court for purposes. of distribution of money appropriated from a municipal court building security fund Approved by full House 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas SB 1811](#) ORIGINAL: Establishes that the judicial and court personnel training fund is an account in the general revenue fund, rather than created in the state treasury, and limits the appropriation of money in the fund to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals for the uses authorized under law. Removes a requirement that the court of criminal appeals administer such money and a requirement that, at the end of each state fiscal year, any unexpended balance in the fund in excess of \$500,000 be transferred to the general revenue fund. HOUSE AMENDED: Removes all references to judicial and court personnel training fund. Approved with House amendment by full House 5/21/11. Senate does not concur with House amendment.

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Selection: Newly Introduced

[Minnesota SB 1465 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Establishes retention elections for judges. Expands terms of office from six to eight years. Creates a judicial performance commission. Commission must issue in year judge seeks retention evaluation of "well-qualified," "qualified," or "unqualified". In Senate Local Government and Elections Committee.

[New Jersey ACR 190 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Abolishes tenure for Supreme Court justices and establishes retention elections as part of the reappointment process. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Selection: Floor and Committee Activity

[California AB 126](#) AS AMENDED: Requires the current governor and future governors to make public the identities of those persons participating in the selection and evaluation of judges, exempting from such disclosure all gubernatorial employees. Requires that each member of the designated agency of the State Bar responsible for evaluation of judicial candidates complete a minimum of 2 hours each year of mandatory training in the areas of fairness and bias in the judicial appointments process. Clarifies existing requirements imposed on the Governor, the Bar, and the Administrative Office of the Courts for collecting annual demographic data, including a requirement that, with respect to the collection and release of demographic data, the State Bar and the Administrative Office of the Courts use the ethnic and racial categories designated and used by the United States Census Bureau for the 2010 Census, and each year thereafter for reporting purposes. Approved as amended by Assembly Appropriations Committee 5/12/11. Approved by full Assembly 5/23/11.

[California SB 182](#) AS AMENDED: Adds gender identity and orientation to the list of demographic data provided by judicial applicants, nominees, appointees, justices, and judges required to be collected and released by the Governor, the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE Commission) of the State Bar, and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Approved as amended by Senate Appropriations Committee 5/26/11.

Structure Changes: Newly Introduced

NONE

Structure Changes: Floor and Committee Activity

[Massachusetts HB 3395](#) Reorganizes state's judicial system. Alters numerous powers of chief justice of the trial court, chief administrative justice(s), court administrator(s), chief justice for administration and management, supreme judicial court, etc. House does not concur with Senate amendments 5/26/11.

[Nevada SB 25](#) AS AMENDED: In a township whose population is less than 1,100,000, one justice of the peace is required for each 100,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, until the township has four justices of the peace, and thereafter, one justice of the peace is required for each 125,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, over a population of 300,000. In a township whose population is 1,100,000 or more, one justice of the peace is required for each 100,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, up to a population of 1,100,000, and thereafter, one justice of the peace is required for each 125,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, over a population of 1,100,000. Approved by full Assembly 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

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[North Carolina HB 112](#) Partial realignment of superior court districts. Approved by full House 5/23/11.

[Rhode Island HB 5131](#) Reduces the number of divisions of the district court from six to four. Approved by Senate Judiciary Committee 5/24/11.

Other: Newly Introduced

[Alabama HB 660](#) Requires courts provide reasonable accommodations for jurors. In House Judiciary Committee.

[Alabama SB 491 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Allows for recall of judges and other elected officials. In Senate Constitution, Campaign Finance, Ethics, and Elections Committee.

[Louisiana SCR 44](#) Requests the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court to create a Families in Need of Services Commission that will study and issue recommendations regarding the governance, structure, target population, and necessary legislation. In Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

[Minnesota HB 1756](#) In event of government shutdown, requires certain services continuing, including court-mandated activities and appearances as determined by the Chief Justice. In House Government Operations and Elections Committee.

[Minnesota SB 1455](#) In event of government shutdown, requires certain services continuing, including court-mandated activities and appearances as determined by the Chief Justice. In Senate State Government Innovation and Veterans Committee.

Other: Floor and Committee Activity

[Alabama SJR 122](#) Requests Congress enact legislation that adds unpaid court-ordered restitution, fines, fees, and costs to delinquent obligations that can be intercepted through the U.S. Department of Treasury Offset Program. Approved by full House 5/24/11. Governor's approval not required, but signature requested.

[California AB 1102](#) For purposes of audits conducted by the State Auditor, specifies "state agency" includes the Supreme Court, a Court of Appeal, a superior court, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. Approved by full Assembly 5/23/11.

[California AB 618](#) AS AMENDED: Provides that a person who is unable to understand English, and who is charged with a crime, has the right to a competent interpreter provided by the court to provide exclusive and ongoing interpretation services throughout any criminal proceeding as required by law. This includes a right not to share an interpreter with a witness. The person charged with the crime is also entitled to a separate interpreter not to be shared with a codefendant during any trial proceeding, including jury instructions, and in any proceeding, as required by law, at which witnesses are called and testimony is taken. Any rights pursuant to this provision may be waived as provided by this section. Provides that a person who is charged with a crime has a right to a determination by the court of the competence of an interpreter at any time during a proceeding if on the basis of the interpreter's provision of interpreter services during a criminal proceeding, the court determines there is good cause to question whether the continued use of the interpreter in the proceeding may prejudice the rights of the person

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charged with the crime such that it would not be in the interest of justice or efficiency for the interpreter to continue. Specifies that notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a non-interpreter staff person of the court, or any person employed by the sheriff, probation department, prosecutor, jail or corrections department of the prosecuting city or county shall not provide interpreter services during a proceeding under this section. This subdivision shall not be construed to negate or modify the circumstances under which a court has the authority to appoint a noncertified interpreter. Establishes that the foregoing rights may only be waived expressly by the person charged if the waiver is affirmatively shown to be intelligent and voluntary. Approved as amended by Assembly Appropriations Committee 5/27/11.

[California AB 810](#) Authorizes the clerk of the court to employ as many foreign language interpreters as may be necessary to interpret cases in the superior court, and to translate documents as specified. Requires the clerk of the court to assign interpreters when needed to interpret in criminal and juvenile delinquency cases in the superior court, and in civil cases if an assignment can be made without causing the court to be unable to perform its obligations in criminal proceedings. Deletes the authorization for the collection of a fee, and would state that these provisions are declarative of existing law. Approved by full Assembly 5/26/11.

[California SB 264](#) Repeals requirement that local public agencies file a record of all known or reported injuries incurred by skateboarders in a public skateboard park with the Judicial Council and the Council report on them. Approved by full Senate 5/23/11.

[California SB 662](#) Authorizes the Department of Finance and any county to enter into a contract that would authorize the county to integrate public services, including court security staff. Approved by Senate Appropriations Committee 5/27/11.

[Connecticut HB 6600](#) Requires State Librarian, in consultation with the Chief Court Administrator of the judicial branch and others, establish standards and guidelines for the preservation and authentication of electronic documents. Approved by full House 5/25/11.

[Maine HB 935](#) Eliminates the requirement that the State Court Library Committee meet at least 4 times a year and gives the State Court Library Committee flexibility in the provision of resources to law libraries. Approved by full House 5/23/11. Approved by full Senate 5/26/11. To Governor for approval.

[Maine SB 393](#) Creates a Family Ombudsman in the Judicial Branch and the Department of Corrections. Rejected by Joint Committee on Judiciary 5/25/11.

[Nebraska LB 669](#) AS AMENDED: Expands supreme court's options for funding sources from which to compensate interpreters used by the court. Provides for clerks and staff of the district courts and the county courts to assist one another in the provision of court services based on agreements with the Supreme Court and the State Court Administrator. Provides for the creation of the new position of Judicial Hearing Officer. Authorizes Supreme Court to appoint judicial hearing officer(s) as needed in county courts sitting as separate juvenile courts or separate juvenile courts to preside in, hear and determine cases initiated under the juvenile code. Provides greater flexibility for scheduling the administrative offices of the courts by requiring that court services must be available on all days except weekends, the holidays mentioned in statute and those days specifically designated by the Supreme Court. Repeals statute providing for divisions of a county court to be at a location other than the county seat and required certain cases to be filed with the county court clerk in the county seat. Approved by full Senate 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

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[Nevada SB 6](#) AS AMENDED: Authorizes the electronic reproduction of the seal of a court (current law requires either impressing the seal on the document or impressing the seal on a substance attached to the document) if the seal is reproduced in accordance with certain local court rules and rules adopted by the Supreme Court. Provides that a seal which is electronically reproduced has the same legal effect as a seal that is impressed. Approved by Assembly Committee on Judiciary 5/20/11. Approved by full Assembly 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

[New Hampshire HB 146](#) AS AMENDED: Jury nullification. Provides "In all court proceedings the court shall instruct the jury of its right to judge the facts and the application of the law in relationship to the facts in controversy. The court shall permit the defendant or counsel for the defendant to explain this right to the jury." Rejected by Senate Judiciary Committee 5/26/11.

[New York AB 7629](#) Establishes the chief administrator of the courts shall submit annually a report on the administration, function and effectiveness of the Drug Treatment Court Program during the preceding year. Approved by Assembly Judiciary Committee 5/24/11.

[Pennsylvania SB 104](#) Requires judiciary and other agencies/branches list online all those issued state owned cars. Approved by full Senate 5/23/11.

[Texas HB 1754](#) AS AMENDED BY SENATE: Reorganizes powers and duties among agencies and entities in Texas that provide representation to indigent defendants. Creates Texas Indigent Defense Commission. Requires the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System to provide administrative support, including information technology services support, to the commission as necessary to carry out the bill's provisions relating to the commission. Requires courts provide all rules and forms that describe county procedures for providing indigent defendants with counsel, any revisions to those rules or forms previously submitted, or verification that rules and forms previously submitted still remain in effect. Approved with Senate amendment by full Senate 5/24/11. House concurs with Senate amendment 5/26/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas HB 1781](#) Requires supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, courts of appeals, and any state judicial agency to examine all reporting requirements set by statute prior to 2009 and identify those not needed or redundant. Approved with Senate amendment by full Senate 5/24/11. House concurs with Senate amendment 5/27/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas HB 2017](#) Removes provisions allowing special license plates for justices of supreme court or judge of court of criminal appeals. Allows for issuance of special license plates to most state judges. Allows for issuance of special license plates to federal judges. Approved with Senate amendment by full Senate 5/21/11. House concurs with Senate amendment 5/25/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas HB 3003](#) Allows government of any county of any size (currently, counties with at least 2.8 million people) to issue cards allowing individuals to by-pass security screening in buildings that house courts. Approved by full Senate 5/27/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas HB 3475](#) Authorizes a party in a hearing or trial in a municipal court, including a municipal court of record, to file with the clerk of the court a motion stating grounds for the recusal or disqualification of the municipal judge. Requires separate judge hear motion. Approved by full Senate 5/25/11. To Governor for approval.

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[Texas SB 1717](#) Makes numerous changes to laws affecting the judiciary. Authorizes the supreme court or, in vacation, a justice of the Supreme Court of Texas (supreme court) to issue a writ of mandamus to compel a statutory county court judge, a statutory probate court judge, or a district judge to proceed to trial and judgment in a case. Requires a judge, if a district judge determines on the judge's own motion that the judge should not sit in a case pending in the judge's court because the judge is disqualified or otherwise should recuse himself or herself, to enter a recusal order, request the presiding judge of that administrative judicial region to assign another judge to sit, and take no further action in the case except for good cause stated in the order in which the action is taken. Provides that existing statute regarding transfer for cases applies only to counties with two or more district courts, rather than only to civil cases in counties with five or more district courts. Provides that, notwithstanding any other law, each district court holds in each county in the judicial district terms that commence on the first Mondays in January and July of each year. Entitles all district judges in a county to equal amounts of supplemental compensation from the county unless otherwise provided. Authorizes the district judges in a county with two or more district courts to adopt rules governing the filing and numbering of cases, the assignment of cases for trial, and the distribution of the work of the courts as in their discretion they consider necessary or desirable for the orderly dispatch of the business of the courts. Requires a district court to sit in the county seat for a jury trial in a civil case. Authorizes the commissioners court of the county to authorize a district court to sit in any municipality within the county to hear and determine nonjury trials in civil cases and to hear and determine motions, arguments, and other matters not heard before a jury in a civil case that is within the court's jurisdiction. Provides that, in addition to other jurisdiction provided by law, a statutory county court exercising civil jurisdiction concurrent with the constitutional jurisdiction of the county court has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in cases between \$500-\$200,000 (currently \$100,000). Provides that the judge of a statutory county court does not have general supervisory control or appellate review of the commissioners court. Requires the judge of a statutory county court be at least 25 years of age, a United States citizen and have resided in the county for at least two years before election or appointment and be a licensed attorney in this state who has practiced law or served as a judge of a court, or both combined, for the four years preceding election or appointment. Requires the justices of the peace in each county to, by majority vote, adopt local rules of administration. Abolishes each small claims court under Chapter 28, Government Code, on the effective date of this section. Requires the supreme court, not later than January 1, 2013, to promulgate rules to define cases that constitute small claims cases. Approved with House amendment by full House 5/24/11. Senate does not concur with House amendment 5/26/11.

[Texas SB 364](#) Requires courts provide information to department of public safety on the prosecution of certain offenses relating to the operation of a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Approved by full House 5/25/11. To Governor for approval.

[Texas SB 701](#) Requires judiciary and other branches/agencies to post "high-value data sets" on Internet. Defines "high-value" as "information that can be used to increase state agency accountability and responsiveness, improve public knowledge of the agency and its operations, further the core mission of the agency, create economic opportunity, or respond to need and demand as identified through public consultation." Approved with House amendment by full House 5/23/11. Senate concurs with House amendment 5/25/11. To Governor for approval.

[Washington HB 1371](#) Transfers most functions of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission to the Department of Corrections and the Administrative Office of the Courts. House concurs with Senate amendments 5/23/11. To Governor for approval.

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[Washington SB 5941](#) Removes expiration date for various court surcharges. Provides revenue from the surcharges is to be split equally between the state and the county collecting the fee. Approved with House amendment by full House 5/21/11. Senate concurs with House amendment 5/22/11. To Governor for approval.

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