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H.B. 683
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Stephens

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SUMMARY

- Eliminates the requirement that county prosecutors annually report all criminal case resolutions to the board of county commissioners and all fire-related case resolutions to the State Fire Marshal.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

County prosecuting attorney reports

The bill repeals a provision of law that currently requires the prosecuting attorney of a county to report annually to the board of county commissioners about criminal prosecutions and annually to the State Fire Marshal about fire-specific criminal prosecutions. Specifically, the report to the board of county commissioners must include the following:

- The number of criminal prosecutions pursued to final conviction and sentence and the following information about each prosecution: the parties, the amount of fine assessed, and the amount of money collected;
- The number of recognizances forfeited;
- For arson and aggravated arson cases (including conspiracy or attempt to commit, or complicity in the commission of, arson or aggravated arson): the number of fires occurring in the county for which the State Fire Marshal or an assistant state fire marshal determined there was enough evidence to charge a person with arson or aggravated arson; the number of cases presented by the prosecuting attorney to the grand jury for indictment and the number returned by the grand jury; the number of cases prosecuted either by indictment or by information by the prosecuting attorney; the number of cases resulting in final conviction and sentence and the number of cases resulting in acquittals; the number of cases dismissed or terminated without a final adjudication as to guilt or innocence.

The report to the State Fire Marshal is only required to include the arson and aggravated arson case information.

Currently, if a prosecuting attorney fails to provide either report, the prosecuting attorney owes \$100 to \$500, which can be recovered in a civil action by the board of county commissioners.¹

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-23-22

ANHB0683IN-134/ts

¹ R.C. 309.16, repealed and 309.10 (included to modify a cross-reference).