



Laura Hinojosa

Hidalgo County
District Clerk

PRESS RELEASE

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DISTRICT COURT RECORDS TECHNOLOGY FUND BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

Austin, Texas – Texas Governor Rick Perry signed into law on June 19, 2009, SB 1685, a district court records technology fund bill, which provides for a technology fee up to \$5 to assist in the preservation and restoration services performed by the district clerk in connection with maintaining a district court records archive. The bill was authored by Senator Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa. A counterpart measure, HB 3312, was also introduced by State Representatives Veronica Gonzalez and Armando “Mando” Martinez.

“This bill seeks to aid district clerk offices throughout the state in adhering to the constitutional duties we are expected to fulfill as record managers,” said Laura Hinojosa, Hidalgo County District Clerk. “SB 1685 is definitely a step forward for district clerks and will allow counties to begin allocating supplemental funding for the maintenance, storage, security and digital conversion of records. I am extremely grateful to our South Texas Legislative Delegation for their time, work and effort in helping to pass this important legislation.”

Hinojosa was instrumental in reviving the technology fund bill, an initiative proposed in legislative sessions past. According to the County & District Clerk Association, clerk offices have historically been poorly equipped, in both funds and expertise, to care for their respective county’s valuable records and are confident this bill will help address budget challenges to better administer their record preservation programs.

SB 1685 became effective upon the governor’s signature and can be adopted upon approval of county commissioner’s court.

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