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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY: Perez of El Paso

1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 1 (house committee report) in Article IV  
2 of the bill, following the appropriations to the Office of Court  
3 Administration, Texas Judicial Council (page IV-27), in Rider 5,  
4 Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC), by adding the following  
5 appropriately lettered subsection:

6 ( ) Report on Access to Indigent Defense in Court  
7 Proceedings of Certain Counties. Out of amounts appropriated above  
8 for Strategy D.1.1, Texas Indigent Defense Commission, the  
9 commission shall conduct a study on access to timely and effective  
10 indigent defense in court proceedings of rural and border counties  
11 in this state. The study must identify the geographic regions of  
12 this state with persistent shortages of qualified defense counsel,  
13 extended delays in indigent defense attorney appointments,  
14 inadequate language access, or excessive indigent defense attorney  
15 caseloads. Not later than December 1, 2026, the commission shall  
16 prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on the results of the  
17 study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.