

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Bigham and others

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### Section

- 1**      **Financial inquiry.** Conforming cross-reference.
- 2**      **Services other than counsel.** Under current law, “counsel” may make an application to the court to require the county to pay for investigative, expert, or other services necessary for an adequate defense if the defendant is financially unable to obtain them. This section limits application requests to public defenders. It eliminates the ex parte (one-sided) application/proceeding process and requires a public defender to provide five days written notice to the prosecutor. It also outlines the information to be included in the application, including (1) an updated financial statement from the defendant and (2) an affidavit from the chief district public defender specifying that the budget for the request services is exhausted at the district and state level.