

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R4832 JMC-D

S.B. 474
By: Shapleigh
Jurisprudence
3/3/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Since 1990, El Paso's population has increased 16 percent, and understandably, its district court capacity has not kept pace with this growth. Last year, while the average Texas district judge's caseload was 1,758 cases, each El Paso judge handled an average of 2,464 cases. El Paso district judges handle well above the state average. This bill would create the 390th, 418th, and 419th Judicial Districts, all composed of El Paso County.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 474 creates three judicial districts in El Paso County.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 24C, Government Code, by adding Sections 24.535, 24.563, and 24.564, as follows:

Sec. 24.535. 390TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (EL PASO COUNTY). Provides that the 390th Judicial District is composed of El Paso County.

Sec. 24.563. 418TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (EL PASO COUNTY). Provides that the 418th Judicial District is composed of El Paso County, and requires that this district's court give preference to family law matters.

Sec. 24.564. 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (EL PASO COUNTY). Provides that the 419th Judicial District is composed of El Paso County, and requires that this district's court give preference to felony criminal law matters.

SECTION 2. Creates the 390th, 418th, and 419th judicial districts.
Effective date: September 1, 1999

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.