

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
82R15524 JRH-F

H.B. 2936
By: Castro (Zaffirini)
Jurisprudence
5/4/2011
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Although a provision of law relating to judicial districts in Bexar County applies to most Bexar County district courts, it does not currently apply to all Bexar County district courts. H.B. 2936 seeks to treat all Bexar County district courts consistently under the Government Code by extending a provision of law relating to judicial districts in Bexar County to apply to the district courts in Bexar County that are not currently included.

H.B. 2936 amends current law relating to the administration of district courts in Bexar County.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 24.139, Government Code, by amending Subsections (b), (d), and (e) and adding Subsection (e-1), as follows:

(b) Provides that this section applies to the 37th, 45th, 57th, 73rd, 131st, 144th, 150th, 166th, 175th, 186th, 187th, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 285th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 379th, 386th, 399th, 407th, 408th, 436th, 437th, and 438th district courts in Bexar County.

(d) Requires that the 144th, 175th, 186th, 187th, 226th, 227th, 289th, 290th, 379th, 399th, and 437th district courts give preference to criminal cases.

(e) Provides that the terms of the 37th, 45th, 57th, 73rd, 131st, 150th, 166th, 224th, 225th, 285th, 288th, 407th, 408th, and 438th district courts begin on the first Mondays in January and July.

(e-1) Requires the 386th and 436th district courts to give preference to juvenile matters under Title 3 (Juvenile Justice Code), Family Code. Provides that the terms of those courts begin on the first Mondays in July and January. Provides that each term continues until the court has disposed of the business for that term.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 24.466(b), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Requires the 289th District Court to give primary preference to juvenile matters, rather than cases and proceedings, under Title 3, rather than Title 2 (Child in Relation to the Family), 3, or 5 (The Parent-Child Relationship and the Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship), Family Code, and secondary preference to criminal cases.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 24.531(b), Government Code, to require the 386th District Court to give preference to juvenile matters under Title 3, Family Code.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 24.580(b), Government Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 5. Effective date: September 1, 2011.