Chapter 800

H.B. No. 2310

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to appointment of bailiffs for the district courts in
- 3 Comal, Hays, and Caldwell Counties.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 53.001(a), Government Code, is amended
- 6 to read as follows:
- 7 (a) The judges of the [22nd, 30th, 70th, 71st, 78th, 89th,
- 8 161st, and 341st district courts, the judges of the district courts
- 9 having jurisdiction in Taylor County, the judges of the county
- 10 courts at law of Taylor County, and the judge of the County Court of
- 11 Harrison County shall each appoint a bailiff.
- 12 SECTION 2. Section 53.002, Government Code, is amended by
- 13 amending Subsection (i) and adding Subsections (j) and (k) to read
- 14 as follows:
- 15 (i) The <u>local administrative</u> judge of the <u>district courts in</u>
- 16 Comal County [207th District Court] may appoint two or more
- 17 <u>bailiffs</u> [a-bailiff] to serve the <u>district courts</u> [court] in Comal
- 18 County as the judge determines necessary for the efficient
- 19 operation of the district courts, subject to the approval of a
- 20 majority of the district judges of those courts [the local
- 21 administrative judge]. A majority of the district judges of those
- 22 courts may remove a bailiff appointed under this subsection. The
- 23 local administrative judge may not appoint more than two bailiffs
- 24 under this subsection unless the funding for the additional

- 1 bailiffs is approved by the commissioners court of Comal County
- 2 before the appointment. A bailiff appointed under this subsection
- 3 is entitled to the salary recommended by the local administrative
- 4 judge, subject to the approval of the commissioners court.
- 5 (j) The local administrative judge of the district courts in
- 6 Hays County may appoint two or more bailiffs to serve the district
- 7 courts in Hays County as the judge determines necessary for the
- 8 efficient operation of the district courts, subject to the approval
- 9 of a majority of the district judges of those courts. A majority of
- 10 the district judges of those courts may remove a bailiff appointed
- 11 under this subsection. The local administrative judge may not
- 12 appoint more than two bailiffs under this subsection unless the
- 13 funding for the additional bailiffs is approved by the
- 14 commissioners court of Hays County before the appointment. A
- 15 bailiff appointed under this subsection is entitled to the salary
- 16 recommended by the local administrative judge, subject to the
- 17 <u>approval of the commissioners court.</u>
- 18 (k) The local administrative judge of the district courts in
- 19 Caldwell County may appoint two or more bailiffs to serve the
- 20 <u>district courts in Caldwell County as the judge determines</u>
- 21 necessary for the efficient operation of the district courts,
- 22 subject to the approval of a majority of the district judges of
- 23 those courts. A majority of the district judges of those courts may
- 24 remove a bailiff appointed under this subsection. The local
- 25 administrative judge may not appoint more than two bailiffs under
- 26 this subsection unless the funding for the additional bailiffs is
- 27 approved by the commissioners court of Caldwell County before the

- 1 appointment. A bailiff appointed under this subsection is entitled
- 2 to the salary recommended by the local administrative judge,
- 3 subject to the approval of the commissioners court.
- 4 SECTION 3. Section 53.004(a), Government Code, is amended
- 5 to read as follows:
- 6 (a) A bailiff in the [22nd,] 34th, 70th, 71st, or 161st
- 7 district court must be a resident of the county in which the bailiff
- 8 [he] serves the court and must be at least 18 years old.
- 9 SECTION 4. Section 53.007(a), Government Code, is amended
- 10 to read as follows:
- 11 (a) This section applies to:
- 12 (1) the [22nd,] 34th, 70th, 71st, 86th, 97th, 130th,
- 13 142nd, 161st, 238th, 318th, 341st, 355th, and 385th district
- 14 courts;
- 15 (2) the County Court of Harrison County;
- 16 (3) the criminal district courts of Tarrant County;
- 17 (4) the district courts in Taylor County;
- 18 (5) the courts described in Section 53.002(c), (d),
- 19 (e), or (f);
- 20 (6) the county courts at law of Taylor County;
- 21 (7) the district courts in Tarrant County that give
- 22 preference to criminal cases; and
- 23 (8) the 115th District Court in Upshur County.
- SECTION 5. Section 53.008, Government Code, is amended to
- 25 read as follows:
- 26 Sec. 53.008. OATH. The bailiffs of the [22nd,] 34th, 70th,
- 27 86th, 97th, 130th, 142nd, 161st, 238th, 318th, 341st, 355th, and

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- l 385th district courts, the bailiffs of the courts described in
- 2 Section 53.002(c), (d), (e), or (f), the bailiffs and the grand jury
- 3 bailiffs of the district courts in Tarrant County that give
- 4 preference to criminal cases, the bailiffs and grand jury bailiffs
- 5 of the criminal district courts in Tarrant County, the bailiffs of
- 6 the district courts in Taylor County, and the bailiffs of the county
- 7 courts at law of Taylor County shall each swear to the following
- 8 oath, to be administered by the judge: "I solemnly swear that I
- 9 will faithfully and impartially perform all duties as may be
- 10 required of me by law, so help me God."
- 11 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2310 was passed by the House on May 3, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2310 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

17 JUN'11

Date

Governor Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

P-DOPM O'CLOCK

Secretary of State