

CHAPTER 72

S.B. No. 309

An Act relating to the jurisdiction of the County Courts of Dallas County at Law Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; amending Article 1970-3, Revised Statutes, as amended.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 1970-3, Revised Statutes, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Article 1970-3. JURISDICTION

"Section 1. The County Courts [~~Court~~] of Dallas County at Law Nos. [~~No.~~] 1, 2, 3, and 5 have [~~has~~] original and concurrent jurisdiction with the County Court of Dallas County in all

matters and causes, civil and criminal, original and appellate, over which, by the general laws of the State, county courts have jurisdiction, except as provided in Article 1970-4, Revised Statutes; but this provision shall not affect jurisdiction of the commissioners court, or of the county judge of Dallas county as the presiding officer of the commissioners court, as to roads, bridges, and public highways, and matters of eminent domain which are now within the jurisdiction of the commissioners court or the judge thereof.

"Section 2. The County Courts [~~Court~~] of Dallas County at Law Nos. [~~No.~~] 1, 2, 3, and 5 have [~~has~~] original and concurrent jurisdiction with district courts in all civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds \$500, excluding interest, and does not exceed \$50,000 [~~\$20,000~~], excluding interest, statutory [~~mandatory~~] damages and penalties, attorney's fees, and costs.

"Section 3. The County Courts [~~Court~~] of Dallas County at Law Nos. [~~No.~~] 1, 2, 3, and 5 have [~~has~~] original and concurrent jurisdiction with district courts in appeals of final rulings and decisions of the Industrial Accident Board, regardless of the amount in controversy."

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on February 11, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 1; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on April 23, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House, with amendment, on April 18, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved: May 3, 1985

Effective: Immediately