

CHAPTER 622

S.B. No. 466

An Act relating to bailiffs and a grand jury bailiff of the 297th District Court.

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

SECTION 1. BAILIFFS APPOINTED BY JUDGE. The judge of the 297th District Court shall appoint two persons to serve as bailiffs and one person to serve as grand jury bailiff.

SECTION 2. EVIDENCE OF APPOINTMENT. An order signed by the judge and entered on the minutes of the court shall be evidence of the appointment of a bailiff or of a grand jury bailiff. The judge shall give written notification to the commissioners court of the appointment, the date of employment, and the compensation to be paid by the county.

SECTION 3. OATH. A person appointed as a bailiff or as a grand jury bailiff shall swear to the following oath, to be administered by the judge: "I solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially perform all duties as may be required of me by law, so help me God."

SECTION 4. QUALIFICATIONS. To be eligible for appointment to the office of bailiff or grand jury bailiff, a person must be a resident of Tarrant County and must be at least 21 years of age.

SECTION 5. TERM OF OFFICE. A bailiff and a grand jury bailiff hold office at the will of the judge.

SECTION 6. DUTIES. A bailiff and a grand jury bailiff are officers of the court and shall perform in the county in which the court sits all duties imposed on bailiffs under the general law. The bailiffs shall perform other duties required by the judge that they serve but shall have no duties assigned by any other person.

SECTION 7. BAILIFFS DEPUTIZED. The county sheriff shall, on written notice of the judge, deputize the bailiffs and grand jury bailiff in addition to other deputies authorized by law.

SECTION 8. COMPENSATION. The county shall compensate the bailiffs and grand jury bailiff out of the general fund in an amount set in writing by the judge.

SECTION 9. BAILIFF APPOINTED BY SHERIFF. The county sheriff shall appoint one bailiff for the 297th District Court in the same manner as authorized by law.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 1985.

SECTION 11. EMERGENCY. 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.

Passed the Senate on March 4, 1985, by a viva-voce vote; passed the House on May 25, 1985, by a non-record vote.

Approved: June 14, 1985

Effective: September 1, 1985