

CHAPTER 299

S.B. No. 551

An Act relating to the appointment of bailiffs for the 97th Judicial District.

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

SECTION 1. BAILIFF APPOINTED BY JUDGE. The judge of the 97th Judicial District shall appoint a bailiff for each county in the district.

SECTION 2. EVIDENCE OF APPOINTMENT; NOTIFICATION. (a) An order signed by the appointing judge entered in the minutes of the court is evidence of the appointment of a bailiff.

(b) The judge shall give each commissioners court written notification of the appointment and date of employment.

SECTION 3. OATH. A bailiff shall swear to the following oath, to be administered by the appointing 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 to be appointed bailiff, a person must be a resident of the judicial district and must be at least 21 years old.

SECTION 5. TERM OF OFFICE. A bailiff holds office at the will of the judge of the court served by the bailiff.

SECTION 6. DUTIES. A bailiff is an officer of the court, shall perform in each county in which the court sits all duties imposed on bailiffs under general law, and shall perform other duties required by the judge of the court that he serves. A bailiff has only the duties assigned by the judge.

SECTION 7. BAILIFF DEPUTIZED. On written request of the judge, the sheriff of each county in which the court sits shall deputize the bailiff in addition to other deputies authorized by law.

SECTION 8. COMPENSATION. A bailiff is entitled to receive from the county in which he serves a salary set by the judge in an amount that does not exceed the salary of the chief deputy sheriff of the county. The judge shall give each commissioners court in the district written notification of the amount of compensation to be paid by the county. The salary is paid out of the general fund of the county.

SECTION 9. 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, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on April 4, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 17, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved: June 7, 1985

Effective: Immediately