

CHAPTER 962

S.B. No. 1328

AN ACT

relating to jurisdiction, operation, and administration of certain county courts in Denton County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.0632, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b) and (h) to read as follows:

*(b) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, the County Court at Law No. 3 of Denton County has:*

*(1) the general jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0021 for a statutory probate court;*

*(2) concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in disputes ancillary to probate, eminent domain, condemnation, or landlord and tenant matters relating to the adjudication and determination of land titles and trusts, whether testamentary, inter vivos, constructive, resulting, or any other class or type of trust, regardless of the amount in controversy or the remedy sought;*

*(3) concurrent jurisdiction with the district court of civil forfeitures, including surety bond forfeitures without minimum or maximum limitation as to the amount in controversy or remedy sought;*

*(4) jurisdiction in mental health matters, original or appellate, provided by law for constitutional county courts, statutory county courts, statutory probate courts, or district courts with mental health jurisdiction, including proceedings under:*

*(A) Subtitle C, Title 7, Health and Safety Code;*

*(B) Chapter 462, Health and Safety Code; and*

*(C) Subtitle D, Title 7, Health and Safety Code;*

*(5) jurisdiction over the collection and management of estates of minors, mentally disabled persons, and deceased persons;*

*(6) concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in all actions by or against a personal representative, in all actions involving an inter vivos trust, in all actions involving a charitable trust, and in all actions involving a testamentary trust, whether the matter is appertaining to or incident to an estate; and*

*(7) the pendent and ancillary jurisdiction necessary to promote judicial efficiency and economy.*

*(h) The judge of the County Court at Law No. 3 of Denton County on the motion of a party to an action or on the motion of a person interested in an estate may transfer to the court from a district, county, or statutory court a cause of action relating to the adjudication and determination of a land title which is appertaining to or incident to an estate pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Denton County or in which a personal representative of an estate pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Denton County is a party and may consolidate the transferred cause of action with the other proceedings in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Denton County relating to that estate. The judge may transfer a cause of action under this subsection only with the consent of the judge of the court from which the cause of action is transferred.*

SECTION 2. Subsection (g), Section 25.0632, Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 3. All actions taken and orders entered by a judge of a court of record in Denton County in any probate matter in Denton County from October 1, 1991, through March 15, 1992, are ratified and the judge is deemed to have been duly assigned to the appropriate court of competent jurisdiction over probate and mental health matters.

SECTION 4. 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 21, 1993: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House on May 21, 1993: Yeas 132, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 1993.

Effective June 19, 1993.