

CHAPTER 536

H.B. No. 1251

AN ACT

relating to judicial and court personnel training.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 589, Acts of the 69th Legislature, Regular Session, 1985 (Article 5966c, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Sections 10 and 11 to read as follows:

Sec. 10. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS. The legislature shall appropriate funds from the judicial and court personnel training fund to the supreme court to provide for the continuing legal education of judges and court personnel in this state.

Sec. 11. JUDICIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEES. (a) The supreme court shall appoint the supreme court education committee to recommend educational requirements and course content, credit, and standards for judges and court personnel of appellate courts, district courts, statutory county courts, and county courts performing judicial functions. The supreme court shall appoint at least two appellate judges, four district court judges, two statutory county court judges, and one judge of a county court performing judicial functions. The supreme court may appoint not more than six additional members. Members serve at the will of the supreme court.

(b) An entity receiving a grant of funds from the supreme court for the education of justices of the peace and their court personnel shall designate a committee to recommend educational requirements and course content, credit, and standards for the purposes of the grant awarded.

(c) An entity receiving a grant of funds from the supreme court under this Act for the education of municipal court judges and their personnel shall designate a committee to recommend educational requirements and course content, credit, and standards for the purposes of the grant awarded.

(d) The supreme court education committee and any committee established as provided by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall meet at least twice a year to:

(1) review and recommend course content, credit, and standards for initial and continuing judicial education for judges and court personnel; and

(2) make recommendations and take other action necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(e) The supreme court education committee and any committee established as provided by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall:

(1) recommend to the supreme court the minimum educational requirements for judges and court personnel; and

(2) issue an annual report to the supreme court that lists the courses, credits, and standards for the judges and court personnel.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987.

SECTION 3. 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 by the House on April 15, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 23, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.