CHAPTER 455

H.B. No. 249

AN ACT

relating to the manner in which a defendant is taken before a magistrate in order to be informed of his rights.

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

SECTION 1. Article 14.06, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows: Art. 14.06. MUST TAKE OFFENDER BEFORE MAGISTRATE. In each case enumerated in this Code, the person making the arrest shall take the person arrested or have him taken without unnecessary delay before the magistrate who may have ordered the arrest, [ex] before some magistrate of the county where the arrest was made without an order, or, if necessary to provide more expeditiously to the person arrested the warnings described by Article 15.17 of this Code, before a magistrate in a county bordering the county in which the arrest was made. The magistrate shall immediately perform the duties described in Article 15.17 of this Code.

SECTION 2. Article 15.17(a), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In each case enumerated in this Code, the person making the arrest shall without unnecessary delay take the person arrested or have him taken before some magistrate of the county where the accused was arrested or, if necessary to provide more expeditiously to the person arrested the warnings described by this article, before a magistrate in a county bordering the county in which the arrest was made. The magistrate shall inform in clear language the person arrested of the accusation against him and of any affidavit filed therewith, of his right to retain counsel, of his right to remain silent, of his right to have an attorney present during any interview with peace officers or attorneys representing the state, of his right to terminate the interview at any time, of his right to request the appointment of counsel if he is indigent and cannot afford counsel, and of his right to have an examining trial. He shall also inform the person arrested that he is not required to make a statement and that any statement made by him may be used against him. The magistrate shall allow the person arrested reasonable time and opportunity to consult counsel and shall admit the person arrested to bail if allowed by law.

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

Passed by the House on May 5, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 25, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective Aug. 31, 1987, 90 days after date of adjournment.