

CHAPTER 602

H.B. No. 2592

AN ACT

relating to the county courts at law in Ector County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 9, Chapter 4, Acts of the 56th Legislature, Regular Session, 1959 (Article 1970-346, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 9. (a) *Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, the* ~~[The terms of the County Court at Law of Ector County has the same terms of court as [shall be as prescribed by the laws relating to the county courts. The terms of the County Court at Law of Ector County shall be held as now established for]~~ the terms of the County Court of Ector County ~~[and the same may be changed in accordance with the laws governing the change in the terms of the County Court of Ector County].~~

(b) *The terms of the County Court at Law of Ector County begin on the first Mondays of January and July for civil cases over which the court has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court and in which the amount in controversy exceeds Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and does not exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), excluding interest.*

SECTION 2. Section 22, Chapter 4, Acts of the 56th Legislature, Regular Session, 1959 (Article 1970-346, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 22. The judge of the County Court at Law of Ector County shall be paid an annual ~~[receive the same]~~ salary set by the Commissioners Court at not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) less than the salary paid by the state to a district judge. The salary shall ~~[and be paid from the same fund and in the same manner as is now prescribed or may be established by law for the county judge of Ector County, to]~~ be paid out of the county treasury of Ector County, Texas, on the order of the Commissioners Court of said county ~~[and said salary shall be paid]~~ monthly in equal installments.

SECTION 3. Section 4, Chapter 1044, Acts of the 68th Legislature, Regular Session, 1983 (Article 1970-346a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4. TERMS. (a) *Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, the* ~~[The]~~ County Court at Law No. 2 has the same terms of Court as the terms of the County Court in Ector County.

*(b) The terms of the County Court at Law No. 2 begin on the first Mondays of January and July for civil cases over which the court has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court and in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$500 and does not exceed \$50,000, excluding interest.*

SECTION 4. Section 5(f), Chapter 1044, Acts of the 68th Legislature, Regular Session 1983 (Article 1970-346a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows

(f) The judge of the County Court at Law No. 2 shall be paid an annual ~~receive the same~~ salary set by the commissioners court at not more than \$1,000 less than the salary paid by the state to a district judge ~~[as the county judge, which shall be paid from the same fund and in the same manner as the salary of the county judge]~~. The salary shall be paid monthly in equal installments. The judge of the County Court at Law No. 2 is entitled to traveling expenses and necessary office expenses, including administrative and clerical help, in the same manner that is allowed the county judge. The judge of the County Court at Law No. 2 shall assess the same fees that are prescribed by law relating to the county judge's fees. The fees shall be collected by the clerk of the court and paid into the county treasury on collection. The fees may not be paid to the judge.

SECTION 5. 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 22, 1987, by a non-record vote; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2592 on June 1, 1987, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2592 on June 1, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 30, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2592 on June 1, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 18, 1987.

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