CHAPTER 14

H.B. No. 652

AN ACT

relating to the employment and duties of a county librarian and other employees of a county library.

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

SECTION 1. Articles 1683 and 1685, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:

Art. 1683. COUNTY LIBRARIAN. Upon the establishment of a county free library the Commissioners Court shall employ [biennially appoint] a County Librarian who shall hold the position at the pleasure of the Commissioners Court [office for a term of two (2) years subject to removal for cause after a hearing by said Court]. No person shall be eligible to the position [office] of County Librarian unless prior to his employment [appointment] he has received from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission a certificate of qualification [for office]; and when any County Librarian has heretofore

received a certificate of qualification [for office] from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and has served as County Librarian for any county in this State, said Librarian may be employed or reemployed by any county as Librarian without further examination and issuance of certificate from said Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The County Librarian shall, prior to entering upon the duties of his position [office], file with the County Clerk the official oath and, at the discretion of the Commissioners Court, execute [make] a bond upon the faithful performance of his duties with sufficient sureties approved by the County Judge of the county of which the Librarian is to be the County Librarian, in such sum as the Commissioners Court may determine.

Art. 1685. DUTY OF LIBRARIAN. The librarian shall endeavor to give an equal and complete service to all parts of the county through branch libraries and deposit stations in schools and other locations where suitable quarters may be obtained, thus distributing printed matter, books, and other educational matter as quickly as circumstances will permit. The county librarian shall have the power to make rules and regulations for the county free library, to establish branches and stations throughout the county, to determine the number and kind of employes of such library, and[, with the approval of the commissioners' court,] to appoint and dismiss such employes in the same manner as provided by the commissioners' court for other county departments. The county librarian shall, subject to the general rules adopted by the commissioners' court, build up and manage according to accepted rules of library management, a library for the people of the county and shall determine what books and other library equipment shall be purchased.

SECTION 2. A person who holds the position of county librarian on the effective date of this Act, holds the position at the pleasure of the commissioners court as if the librarian were employed under Article 1683, Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act.

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 February 26, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on March 26, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved April 6, 1987.

Effective 90 days after date of adjournment.