

CHAPTER 523

H.B. No. 788

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of the County Court of Fayette County.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 26, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 26.175 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.175. FAYETTE COUNTY. In addition to other jurisdiction provided by law, the County Court of Fayette County has the following jurisdiction concurrent with the district court if the county judge is licensed to practice law in this state and practiced law for at least two years before his appointment or election:

- (1) jurisdiction over cases and proceedings under the Family Code;*
- (2) eminent domain jurisdiction; and*
- (3) civil jurisdiction in cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds \$500 and does not exceed \$20,000.*

SECTION 2. Chapter 948, Acts of the 69th Legislature, Regular Session, 1985, is repealed.

SECTION 3. This Act does not change the jurisdiction of the County Court of Fayette County as provided by Chapter 948, Acts of the 69th Legislature, Regular Session, 1985, or the district court in that county, but is intended to clarify that the jurisdiction of the county court and the district court is concurrent in cases enumerated in Section 26.175, Government Code.

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 by the House on April 23, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No.

788 on May 27, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 126, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective June 17, 1987.