

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 408

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the administration of a veterans treatment court
3 program.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 124.003(b), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (b) A veterans treatment court program established under
8 this chapter shall make, establish, and publish local procedures to
9 ensure maximum participation of eligible defendants in the program
10 [~~county or counties in which those defendants reside~~].

11 SECTION 2. Sections 124.006(a) and (d), Government Code,
12 are amended to read as follows:

13 (a) A veterans treatment court program that accepts
14 placement of a defendant may transfer responsibility for
15 supervising the defendant's participation in the program to another
16 veterans treatment court program that is located in the county
17 where the defendant works or resides or in a county adjacent to the
18 county where the defendant works or resides. The defendant's
19 supervision may be transferred under this section only with the
20 consent of both veterans treatment court programs and the
21 defendant.

22 (d) If a defendant is charged with an offense in a county
23 that does not operate a veterans treatment court program, the court
24 in which the criminal case is pending may place the defendant in a

1 veterans treatment court program located in the county where the
2 defendant works or resides or in a county adjacent to the county
3 where the defendant works or resides, provided that a program is
4 operated in that county and the defendant agrees to the placement.
5 A defendant placed in a veterans treatment court program in
6 accordance with this subsection must agree to abide by all rules,
7 requirements, and instructions of the program.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.