

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 858  
By: Goodman  
Judicial Affairs  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Under current law, judges of county courts at law and county criminal courts in Tarrant County are paid a total annual salary that is fixed at \$1,000 less than the total annual salary of any district judge in the county. Other large counties in Texas, notably Dallas County and Harris County, can pay their county court at law and county criminal court judges an amount “not less than \$1,000 less” than a district judge, giving these counties some flexibility in paying these judges. H.B. 858 would allow Tarrant County judges to be paid in a similar manner to their counterparts in Dallas and Harris counties.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee’s opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 858 amends the Government Code to provide that county court at law judges and county criminal court judges in Tarrant County be paid an annual salary in an amount that is not less than \$1,000 less than the total annual salary, including supplements and salary increases, paid any district judge in the county.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

October 1, 2003.