

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1564
By: Madla
Jurisprudence
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Enrolled

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, county courthouses are prohibited from creating a court annex outside of the county seat and are prohibited from storing records in a place other than the county seat. S.B. 1564 enables a county with a population of 18,000 or less to build an office annex outside the boundaries of the county seat and to store county documents in the facility.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter A, Chapter 292, Local Government Code, by adding Section 292.0025, as follows:

Sec. 292.0025. FACILITIES OUTSIDE COUNTY SEAT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) Provides that this section applies only to a county that has a population of 18,000 or less.

(b) Authorizes the commissioners court of a county to provide an auxiliary court, office building, or jail facility at a location in the county and within five miles of the boundaries of the county seat in the same manner that is applicable to a court, building, or facility at the county seat. Authorizes the commissioners court to provide for the building or facility through the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness as provided under Section 292.002 and authorizes the commissioners court to provide office space in the building or facility for any county or precinct office.

(c) Authorizes the auxiliary court to be used for the holding of court proceedings, including district court proceedings. Authorizes the commissioners court, for the purpose of the court proceedings, to designate the location of the auxiliary court as an auxiliary county seat.

(d) Authorizes the records of a county officer who is provided space at a court, building, or facility under this section and the records of the auxiliary court to be kept at the court, building, or facility.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.