

By: Jones of Lubbock

H.B. No. 2232

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the expansion of the Lubbock County Hospital District.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2(a), Chapter 484, Acts of the 60th Legislature, Regular Session, 1967, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The boundaries of this district are coterminous with the boundaries of Lubbock County, Texas, as the same appear of record according to the field notes and plats on file in the office of the County Clerk of Lubbock County, Texas, unless the boundaries are expanded under Section 2A of this Act or other applicable law.

SECTION 2. Chapter 484, Acts of the 60th Legislature, Regular Session, 1967, is amended by adding Section 2A to read as follows:

Sec. 2A. EXPANSION OF DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) Registered voters of a county that is not included in the boundaries of the district or the boundaries of another hospital district may file a petition with the secretary of the board of managers requesting the inclusion of the county in the district. The county is not required to be contiguous to Lubbock County. The petition must be signed by at least 50 registered voters of the county or a majority of those voters, whichever is less, and must be endorsed by the commissioners court of that county.

(b) The board of managers by order shall set a time and place to hold a hearing on the petition to include the county in the

1 district. The board shall set a date for the hearing that is not
2 earlier than the 31st day after the date the board issues the order.

3 (c) If after the hearing the board of managers finds that
4 annexation of the county into the district would be feasible and
5 would benefit the district, the board may approve the annexation by
6 a resolution entered in its minutes. The board shall send a copy of
7 the resolution to the Commissioners Court of Lubbock County. If the
8 commissioners court endorses the resolution, the board of managers
9 and the commissioners court of the county to be annexed shall each
10 order an election under Subsection (d) of this section to approve
11 the annexation.

12 (d) Annexation of territory is final when approved by a
13 majority of the voters at an election held in the district and by a
14 majority of the voters at a separate election held in the county to
15 be annexed. If the district has outstanding debts or taxes, the
16 voters in the election to approve the annexation must also
17 determine if the annexed county will assume its proportion of the
18 debts or taxes if added to the district.

19 (e) The election ballots shall be printed to provide for
20 voting for or against the following, as applicable:

21 (1) "Adding _____ County to the Lubbock County
22 Hospital District."

23 (2) "_____ County assuming its proportionate share
24 of the outstanding debts and taxes of the Lubbock County Hospital
25 District, if it is added to the district."

26 (f) The election shall be held after the 45th day and on or
27 before the 60th day after the date the election is ordered. The

1 election shall be ordered and notice of the election shall be given
2 in the same manner as provided by Sections 4(b) and (c) of this Act
3 for ordering and giving notice of an election authorizing creation
4 of the district. Section 41.001(a), Election Code, does not apply
5 to an election held under this section.

6 (g) Another hospital district may be merged into the Lubbock
7 County Hospital District by following the procedures set out in
8 this section for inclusion of a county in the district, except that
9 the board of managers of the other hospital district shall order the
10 election to be held in that area. If the merger is approved by the
11 voters of the district and the voters of the other district, the
12 board of managers of the two districts shall enter into a merger
13 agreement by which the district shall assume all of the assets and
14 liabilities of the other district on the date of the merger.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.