

By: Casteel

H.B. No. 3081

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to facilities outside of a county seat.

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

SECTION 1. Section 292.002 (a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 292.002 FACILITIES OUTSIDE COUNTY SEAT. (a) The commissioners court of a county may provide an office building or a jail facility at a location in the county outside the county seat in the same manner that is applicable to such a building or facility at the county seat. The commissioners court may provide for the building or facility through the issuance of bonds as provided by Subtitles A, C, and D, Title 9, Government Code, or through the issuance of other evidences of indebtedness in the same manner as bonds or evidences of indebtedness applicable to a courthouse or jail at the county seat. The commissioners court may provide office space in the building or facility for any county or precinct office ~~except a court required by law to sit at the county seat.~~ However, except as provided by subsection (b), a county officer who is provided space in the building or facility shall maintain an office at the county seat and shall keep the original records of office at that office.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the [The] commissioners court may authorize places located in the county but outside the municipality designated as the county seat as auxiliary

1 courts for the holding of court proceedings in any courts including  
2 district courts and may designate those places as auxiliary county  
3 seats for this purpose. The records of any court sitting in an  
4 auxiliary county seat, including the records of the clerk of the  
5 court, may be kept in the auxiliary county seat.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.