

By: Hamilton

H.B. No. 3557

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the county courts at law in Orange County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.1831, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 25.1831. ORANGE COUNTY. (a) Orange County has the following [one] statutory county courts:

(1) [court,] the County Court at Law of Orange County;  
and

(2) the County Court at Law No. 2 of Orange County.

(b) A county court at law in [The County Court at Law of]  
Orange County sits at the county seat.

SECTION 2. Section 25.1832(i), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(i) Except as otherwise required by law, a jury in a county court at law is [Juries in all matters civil or criminal shall be composed of 12 members, except that in misdemeanor criminal cases and cases of concurrent jurisdiction with the county court, the juries shall be] composed of six members.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by Section 2 of this Act applies only to a proceeding commenced on or after the effective date of this Act. A proceeding commenced before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the proceeding was commenced, and the former law is continued in effect

1 for that purpose.

2 SECTION 4. The County Court at Law No. 2 of Orange County is  
3 created and this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.