

By: Lindsay

S.B. No. 1206

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to procedures in condemnation proceedings in a county civil court at law in Harris County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.1032, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

(c) A county civil court at law in Harris County has concurrent [~~exclusive~~] jurisdiction with the district court [~~in Harris County~~] of eminent domain proceedings, both statutory and inverse, regardless of the amount in controversy. Notwithstanding Section 21.013, Property Code, a party initiating a condemnation proceeding in Harris County may file a petition with any clerk authorized to accept the petition for the district courts. A condemnation proceeding shall be assigned by rotation to a court with jurisdiction to hear the proceeding. In addition to other jurisdiction provided by law, a county civil court at law has jurisdiction to:

- (1) decide the issue of title to real or personal property;
- (2) hear a suit to recover damages for slander or defamation of character;
- (3) hear a suit for the enforcement of a lien on real property;

1           (4) hear a suit for the forfeiture of a corporate  
2 charter;

3           (5) hear a suit for the trial of the right to property  
4 valued at \$200 or more that has been levied on under a writ of  
5 execution, sequestration, or attachment; and

6           (6) hear a suit for the recovery of real property.

7           (m) Notwithstanding Section 62.301, for a condemnation  
8 proceeding before a county civil court at law, a party may elect to  
9 have the proceeding tried before a jury of 12 persons.

10           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.