BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 2256 By: Gallego Judiciary Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The 112th and 83rd Judicial Districts have concurrent jurisdiction in Pecos County. The 112th District Court impanels four (4) Grand Juries each year in Pecos County and the 83rd District impanels two (2) Grand Juries per year. Therefore, six panels are being called each year for Grand Jury service. This is in addition to any panels called for petit jury service. Response to jury notices in Pecos County is less then one-half and the brevity of the 112th's Grand Jury terms is unnecessary. Pecos County would be better served by having two (2) six-month terms for the 112th District Grand Jury.

HB 2256 changes the terms of the Grand Juries in Pecos County to two (2) six-month terms for the 112th District Grand Jury.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

. Section 24.214 (b), Government Code, is amended by the bill to change the terms of court for Pecos County to the first Mondays in May and November.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2005