

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 235  
By: Harris  
Jurisprudence  
5/13/2005  
Enrolled

### **AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Currently, Tarrant County criminal district courts are served both by bailiffs appointed by the judge and by bailiffs hired by the sheriff. Sheriff department employees have no residency requirements to serve as a bailiff in the courts; however, a bailiff or grand jury bailiff appointed by a criminal district court judge must reside in Tarrant County. This creates an inequality and employment restrictions on the bailiffs appointed by the judge and limits the judge's discretion in choosing bailiffs to serve the court. S.B. 235 deletes the residency requirement of bailiffs who are appointed by the criminal district court judges of Tarrant County.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 53.004(b), Government Code, to delete text requiring a bailiff or grand jury bailiff in district court giving preference to criminal cases, or a criminal district court in Tarrant County, to be a resident of that county. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2005.