1-1 Hope (Senate Sponsor - Wentworth) H.B. No. 282 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 23, 2005; March 30, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence; April 28, 2005, reported favorably by the following 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; April 28, 2005, sent to printer.)

> A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to the funding of alternative dispute resolution systems.

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

SECTION 1. Section 152.004(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) To establish and maintain an alternative dispute resolution system, the commissioners court may set a court cost in an amount not to exceed  $\frac{$15}{$10}$  [\$10] to be taxed, collected, and paid as other court costs in each civil case filed in a county or district court in the county, including a civil case relating to probate matters but not including:
  - (1) a suit for delinquent taxes;
- (2) a condemnation proceeding under Chapter 21, Property Code; or
- (3) a proceeding under Subtitle C, Title 7, Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 2. Section 152.005, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 152.005. ADDITIONAL FEE FOR <u>JUSTICE COURTS</u> [CERTAIN COUNTIES]. (a) To establish and maintain an alternative dispute resolution system, the commissioners court [of a county with a population of 2.5 million or more] may, in addition to the court cost authorized under Section 152.004, set a court cost in an amount not to exceed \$5 [\$3] for civil cases filed in a justice court located in the county, but not including:

(1) a suit for delinquent taxes; or

- (2) an eviction proceeding, including a forcible detainer, a forcible entry and detainer, or a writ of re-entry.
- (b) A clerk of the court shall collect and pay the court cost in the manner prescribed by Section 152.004(c).

SECTION 3. This Act applies only to a civil case filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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