

By: Miller

H.B. No. 496

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to jurisdiction of the statutory county courts of Erath County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.0742(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, a county court at law in Erath County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in:

(1) civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds \$500 but does not exceed \$500,000, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney's fees and costs, as alleged on the face of the petition; and

(2) family law cases and proceedings [~~under Chapter 262, Family Code, in which the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services has assumed the care, custody, and control of a child~~].

SECTION 2. The change in law made to Section 25.0742(a), Government Code, by this Act applies only to an action filed in a statutory county court of Erath County on or after the effective date of this Act. An action filed in a statutory county court of Erath County before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the action was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.