## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

## AN ACT

relating to court personnel education.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
SECTION 1. Section 27.056, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:
(c) The clerk shall:
(1) maintain central docket records for all cases filed in the justice court;
(2) maintain an index of all court judgments for cases arising in the justice court; [and]
(3) successfully complete a 16-hour course on the performance of a clerk's duties not later than the first anniversary of the date the person is designated to serve as clerk of the justice court; and
(4) perform the other duties required by law and assist the judge in handing matters before the court.
(d) The course required under Subsection (c)(3) may be completed in an accredited state-supported institution of higher education.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 27, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 27.0565 to read as follows:

Sec. 27.0565. COURT PERSONNEL. (a) A person who is an employee of a justice court must successfully complete a 16-hour course on the performance of the person's duties for the court not later than the first anniversary of the date the person is employed by the justice court.
(b) The course required under Subsection (a) may be completed in an accredited state-supported institution of higher education.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Sections 27.056(c)(3) and 27.0565, Government Code, apply to a person serving as a clerk or employee for a justice court on or after the effective date of this Act. A person serving as a clerk or employee on the effective date of this Act must comply with Section 27.056(c)(3) or 27.0565, Government Code, on or before September 1, 2006.

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

