

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 3519

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the appointment of temporary justices of the peace in  
3 certain counties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 27.055, Government Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsections (c), (d), and (e) and adding Subsection (f) to  
7 read as follows:

8 (c) In Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (b) and (f), "qualified  
9 person" means a person who has served as a justice of the peace for  
10 not less than 4 1/2 years and who has not been convicted of a  
11 criminal offense that involves moral turpitude.

12 (d) A person appointed under Subsection (b) or (f) may  
13 reside in a county other than the county in which the person is  
14 appointed as a temporary justice of the peace.

15 (e) The county judge may appoint any qualified voter under  
16 Section 11.002, Election Code, to serve as a temporary justice of  
17 the peace if the judge cannot find a qualified person who agrees to  
18 serve under Subsection (b) or (f).

19 (f) In a county that has a population of more than 800,000  
20 and that has not more than five justices of the peace, the county  
21 judge may appoint a qualified person to serve as a temporary justice  
22 of the peace to hold court when necessary to dispose of accumulated  
23 business in the precinct. The county judge may designate the local  
24 administrative statutory county court judge to act on behalf of the

1 county judge in making the appointment under this subsection.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.