

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 or the judge's designee, as applicable,
18 cannot find a qualified person who agrees to serve under Subsection
19 (b) or (f).

20 (f) In a county that has a population of more than 800,000
21 and that has not more than five justices of the peace, the county
22 judge or the judge's designee may appoint a qualified person to
23 serve as a temporary justice of the peace to hold court when
24 necessary to dispose of accumulated business in the precinct.

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