1-1 By: Naishtat (Senate Sponsor - Wentworth)   H.B. No. 3519
1-2   (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2005;
1-3 May 12, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 19, 2005, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 19, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7   AN ACT

1-8 relating to the appointment of temporary justices of the peace in
1-9 certain counties.
1-10   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-11   SECTION 1. Section 27.055, Government Code, is amended by
1-12 amending Subsections (c), (d), and (e) and adding Subsection (f) to
1-13 read as follows:
1-14   (c) In Subsections [Subsection] (b) and (f), "qualified
1-15 person" means a person who has served as a justice of the peace for
1-16 not less than 4 1/2 years and who has not been convicted of a
1-17 criminal offense that involves moral turpitude.
1-18   (d) A person appointed under Subsection (b) or (f) may
1-19 reside in a county other than the county in which the person is
1-20 appointed as a temporary justice of the peace.
1-21   (e) The county judge may appoint any qualified voter under
1-22 Section 11.002, Election Code, to serve as a temporary justice of
1-23 the peace if the judge cannot find a qualified person who agrees to
1-24 serve under Subsection (b) or (f).
1-25   (f) In a county that has a population of more than 800,000
1-26 and that has not more than five justices of the peace, the county
1-27 judge may appoint a qualified person to serve as a temporary justice
1-28 of the peace to hold court when necessary to dispose of accumulated
1-29 business in the precinct. The county judge may designate the local
1-30 administrative statutory county court judge to act on behalf of the
1-31 county judge in making the appointment under this subsection.
1-32   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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