

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 2967
By: Hartnett
Judiciary
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Misfeasance or malfeasance by a statutory probate judge could in some circumstances cause significant financial losses. The purpose of this bill is to require a performance bond or insurance relating to statutory probate judges.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

The bill would amend the Government Code by adding a new section providing that a statutory probate judge must, at county expense, execute a bond in the amount of \$500,000 payable to the county treasurer. The act also provides that a county may elect to obtain insurance in the same amount in lieu of the bond against losses caused by the judge's gross negligence in performing his duties.

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 1, 2007