

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 1416
By: Hinojosa
Judiciary
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The current minimum amount which a defendant is authorized to appeal from small claims court is \$20. An increase in this minimum may help to expedite trials and to decrease the backlog in some of the higher level courts.

The bill increases the amount of a judgment that may be appealed from small claims court from \$20 to \$250.

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

SECTION 1. Amends Section 28.052(a), Government Code, by authorizing a dissatisfied party to appeal the final judgment to the county court or county court at law if the amount in controversy, exclusive of costs, exceeds \$250, rather than \$20.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2007.