

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 618

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the jurisdiction of the county, justice, and small  
3 claims courts in civil matters.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 26.042(a), Government Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) A county court has concurrent jurisdiction with the  
8 justice courts in civil cases in which the matter in controversy  
9 exceeds \$200 in value but does not exceed \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~],  
10 exclusive of interest.

11 SECTION 2. Section 27.031(a), Government Code, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (a) In addition to the jurisdiction and powers provided by  
14 the constitution and other law, the justice court has original  
15 jurisdiction of:

16 (1) civil matters in which exclusive jurisdiction is  
17 not in the district or county court and in which the amount in  
18 controversy is not more than \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~], exclusive of  
19 interest;

20 (2) cases of forcible entry and detainer; and

21 (3) foreclosure of mortgages and enforcement of liens  
22 on personal property in cases in which the amount in controversy is  
23 otherwise within the justice court's jurisdiction.

24 SECTION 3. Section 28.003(a), Government Code, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 (a) The small claims court has concurrent jurisdiction with  
3 the justice court in actions by any person for the recovery of money  
4 in which the amount involved, exclusive of costs, does not exceed  
5 \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~].

6 SECTION 4. This Act applies only to a cause of action filed  
7 on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of action filed  
8 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in  
9 effect at the time the cause of action was filed, and that law is  
10 continued in effect for that purpose.

11 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.