

1-1 By: Wentworth S.B. No. 618
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 13, 2007; February 27, 2007,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;
1-4 March 19, 2007, reported favorably, as amended, by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; March 19, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1 By: Wentworth

1-7 Amend S.B. 618 (Introduced version) as follows:

1-8 (1) In the recital for SECTION 2 of the bill (page 1, line
1-9 29), strike "Subsection (a), Section 27.031" and substitute
1-10 "Section 27.031".

1-11 (2) In the recital for SECTION 2 of the bill (page 1, line
1-12 30), between "amended" and "to", insert "by amending Subsection (a)
1-13 and adding Subsection (c)".

1-14 (3) In SECTION 2 of the bill, following amended Subsection
1-15 (a), Section 27.031, Government Code (page 1, between lines 41 and
1-16 42), insert:

1-17 (c) A corporation need not be represented by an attorney in
1-18 justice court.

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the jurisdiction of the county, justice, and small
1-22 claims courts in civil matters.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 26.042, Government Code,
1-25 is amended to read as follows:

1-26 (a) A county court has concurrent jurisdiction with the
1-27 justice courts in civil cases in which the matter in controversy
1-28 exceeds \$200 in value but does not exceed \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~],
1-29 exclusive of interest.

1-30 SECTION 2. Subsection (a), Section 27.031, Government Code,
1-31 is amended to read as follows:

1-32 (a) In addition to the jurisdiction and powers provided by
1-33 the constitution and other law, the justice court has original
1-34 jurisdiction of:

1-35 (1) civil matters in which exclusive jurisdiction is
1-36 not in the district or county court and in which the amount in
1-37 controversy is not more than \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~], exclusive of
1-38 interest;

1-39 (2) cases of forcible entry and detainer; and

1-40 (3) foreclosure of mortgages and enforcement of liens
1-41 on personal property in cases in which the amount in controversy is
1-42 otherwise within the justice court's jurisdiction.

1-43 SECTION 3. Subsection (a), Section 28.003, Government Code,
1-44 is amended to read as follows:

1-45 (a) The small claims court has concurrent jurisdiction with
1-46 the justice court in actions by any person for the recovery of money
1-47 in which the amount involved, exclusive of costs, does not exceed
1-48 \$10,000 [~~\$5,000~~].

1-49 SECTION 4. This Act applies only to a cause of action filed
1-50 on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of action filed
1-51 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
1-52 effect at the time the cause of action was filed, and that law is
1-53 continued in effect for that purpose.

1-54 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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