

By: Whitmire

S.B. No. 1504

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the concurrent jurisdiction of certain municipal courts  
in certain criminal cases punishable by fine only.

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

SECTION 1. Article 4.14, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) A municipality with a population of 1.9 million or more  
and another municipality contiguous to that municipality may enter  
into an agreement providing concurrent jurisdiction for the  
municipal courts of either jurisdiction for all criminal cases  
arising from offenses under state law that are:

(1) committed on the boundary of those municipalities  
or within 200 yards of that boundary; and

(2) punishable by fine only.

SECTION 2. Chapter 13, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
amended by adding Article 13.045 to read as follows:

Art. 13.045. ON THE BOUNDARIES OF CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES.  
An offense punishable by fine only that is committed on the  
boundary, or within 200 yards of the boundary, of contiguous  
municipalities that have entered into an agreement authorized by  
Article 4.14(f) and Section 29.003(h), Government Code, may be  
prosecuted in either of those municipalities.

SECTION 3. Section 29.003, Government Code, is amended by  
adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

1        (h) A municipality with a population of 1.9 million or more  
2 and another municipality contiguous to that municipality may enter  
3 into an agreement providing concurrent jurisdiction for the  
4 municipal courts of either jurisdiction for all criminal cases  
5 arising from offenses under state law that are:

- 6            (1) committed on the boundary of those municipalities  
7 or within 200 yards of that boundary; and  
8            (2) punishable by fine only.

9        SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
10 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
11 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
12 governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and  
13 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For  
14 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
15 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred  
16 before that date.

17        SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.