

1-1 By: Duncan S.B. No. 2517
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed April 9, 2009; April 14, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental
1-4 Relations; April 23, 2009, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; April 23, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the dissolution of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
1-9 District and the North Runnels County Hospital District and the
1-10 creation of the Runnels County Hospital District; granting the
1-11 authority to impose a tax and issue bonds; granting the power of
1-12 eminent domain.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-14 ARTICLE 1. DISSOLUTION OF BALLINGER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT ON
1-15 CREATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

1-16 SECTION 1.01. Chapter 1004, Special District Local Laws
1-17 Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D-1 to read as follows:

1-18 SUBCHAPTER D-1. DISSOLUTION OF BALLINGER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
1-19 DISTRICT ON CREATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

1-20 Sec. 1004.171. DISSOLUTION; ELECTION. (a) The board may
1-21 order an election on the question of the dissolution of the
1-22 district, creation of the Runnels County Hospital District,
1-23 transfer of the district's assets and obligations to the Runnels
1-24 County Hospital District, and assumption of the district's
1-25 outstanding debts by the Runnels County Hospital District.

1-26 (b) The board shall order the election if:

1-27 (1) the board receives a petition requesting an
1-28 election that is signed by at least 50 of the district's registered
1-29 voters; or

1-30 (2) the board receives notice that the board of
1-31 directors of the North Runnels County Hospital District intends to
1-32 order an election to dissolve the North Runnels County Hospital
1-33 District and create the Runnels County Hospital District under
1-34 Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular
1-35 Session, 1969.

1-36 (c) If the board intends to hold an election under this
1-37 subchapter, the board shall notify the board of directors of the
1-38 North Runnels County Hospital District and the Runnels County
1-39 Commissioners Court of that intention.

1-40 (d) The election held under this subchapter shall be held on
1-41 the same date as the election to dissolve the North Runnels County
1-42 Hospital District and create the Runnels County Hospital District
1-43 under Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st Legislature,
1-44 Regular Session, 1969, and the election in the portion of the county
1-45 not included in a hospital district to create the Runnels County
1-46 Hospital District. The board shall coordinate with the board of
1-47 directors of the North Runnels County Hospital District and the
1-48 Commissioners Court of Runnels County in setting the election date
1-49 under this section.

1-50 (e) The order calling the election must state:

1-51 (1) the nature of the election, including the
1-52 proposition that is to appear on the ballot;

1-53 (2) the date of the election;

1-54 (3) the hours during which the polls will be open; and

1-55 (4) the location of the polling places.

1-56 (f) Section 41.001, Election Code, does not apply to an
1-57 election ordered under this section.

1-58 Sec. 1004.172. NOTICE OF ELECTION. (a) The board shall
1-59 give notice of an election under this subchapter by publishing a
1-60 substantial copy of the election order in a newspaper with general
1-61 circulation in the district once a week for two consecutive weeks.

1-62 (b) The first publication must appear not later than the
1-63 35th day before the date set for the election.

1-64 Sec. 1004.173. BALLOT. The ballot for an election under

2-1 this subchapter must be printed to permit voting for or against the
2-2 proposition: "The dissolution of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
2-3 District and the creation of the Runnels County Hospital District,
2-4 providing for the imposition of an ad valorem tax at a rate not to
2-5 exceed _____ cents (insert any rate not to exceed 75 cents) on each
2-6 \$100 valuation of taxable property in Runnels County, and providing
2-7 for the transfer to and assumption by the Runnels County Hospital
2-8 District of all outstanding bonds and other obligations issued for
2-9 hospital purposes by the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District,
2-10 Runnels County, and any part of a municipality located in Runnels
2-11 County, and the transfer of the existing Ballinger Memorial
2-12 Hospital District's assets to the Runnels County Hospital
2-13 District."

2-14 Sec. 1004.174. ELECTION RESULTS. (a) The board shall find
2-15 that the district is dissolved if:

2-16 (1) a majority of the votes in an election under this
2-17 subchapter favor dissolution of the district and creation of the
2-18 Runnels County Hospital District;

2-19 (2) a majority of the votes in an election held on the
2-20 same date under Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st
2-21 Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, favor dissolution of the North
2-22 Runnels County Hospital District and creation of the Runnels County
2-23 Hospital District; and

2-24 (3) a cumulative majority of the votes in all three
2-25 elections held on the question of creating the Runnels County
2-26 Hospital District favor creation of the district.

2-27 (b) If a majority of the votes in either election under
2-28 Subdivision (a)(1) or (2) do not favor dissolution of the district
2-29 and creation of the Runnels County Hospital District, or if a
2-30 cumulative majority of the votes in all three elections held on the
2-31 question of creating the Runnels County Hospital District do not
2-32 favor creation of the district, the board shall continue to
2-33 administer the district, and another election on the question of
2-34 dissolution under this subchapter may not be held before the first
2-35 anniversary of the date of the most recent election under this
2-36 subchapter to dissolve the district.

2-37 Sec. 1004.175. TRANSFER OR ADMINISTRATION OF ASSETS.

2-38 (a) If a majority of the votes in both elections under Sections
2-39 1004.174(a)(1) and (2) favor dissolution of the district and
2-40 creation of the Runnels County Hospital District, and a cumulative
2-41 majority of the votes in all three elections held on the question of
2-42 creating the Runnels County Hospital District favor creation of the
2-43 district, the board shall transfer the land, buildings,
2-44 improvements, equipment, and other assets belonging to the district
2-45 to the Runnels County Hospital District.

2-46 (b) On the date the district makes the transfer under
2-47 Subsection (a), the Runnels County Hospital District assumes all
2-48 debts and obligations of the district at the time of the transfer.
2-49 The district is dissolved at the time of the transfer and the board
2-50 is released from any further duty or obligation.

2-51 SECTION 1.02. On the dissolution of the Ballinger Memorial
2-52 Hospital District and the approval of the creation of the Runnels
2-53 County Hospital District, a reference in any law to the Ballinger
2-54 Memorial Hospital District means the Runnels County Hospital
2-55 District.

2-56 SECTION 1.03. (a) An election to dissolve the Ballinger
2-57 Memorial Hospital District and create the Runnels County Hospital
2-58 District must be held not later than the fifth anniversary of the
2-59 effective date of this Act.

2-60 (b) If the dissolution of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
2-61 District and creation of the Runnels County Hospital District are
2-62 not approved at an election held not later than the fifth
2-63 anniversary of the effective date of this Act, Subchapter D-1,
2-64 Chapter 1004, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this
2-65 article, expires.

2-66 ARTICLE 2. DISSOLUTION OF NORTH RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
2-67 ON CREATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

2-68 SECTION 2.01. Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st Legislature,
2-69 Regular Session, 1969, is amended by adding Section 20c to read as

3-1 follows:

3-2 Sec. 20c. (a) The board may order an election on the
 3-3 question of the dissolution of the district, creation of the
 3-4 Runnels County Hospital District, transfer of the district's assets
 3-5 and obligations to the Runnels County Hospital District, and
 3-6 assumption of the district's outstanding debts by the Runnels
 3-7 County Hospital District.

3-8 (b) The board shall order the election if:

3-9 (1) the board receives a petition requesting an
 3-10 election that is signed by at least 50 of the district's registered
 3-11 voters; or

3-12 (2) the board receives notice that the board of
 3-13 directors of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District intends to
 3-14 order an election to dissolve the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
 3-15 District and create the Runnels County Hospital District under
 3-16 Subchapter D-1, Chapter 1004, Special District Local Laws Code.

3-17 (c) If the board intends to hold an election under this
 3-18 section, the board shall notify the board of directors of the
 3-19 Ballinger Memorial Hospital District and the Runnels County
 3-20 Commissioners Court of that intention. The election held under
 3-21 this section shall be held on the same date as the election to
 3-22 dissolve the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District and create the
 3-23 Runnels County Hospital District under Subchapter D-1, Chapter
 3-24 1004, Special District Local Laws Code, and the election in the
 3-25 portion of the county not included in a hospital district to create
 3-26 the Runnels County Hospital District. The board shall coordinate
 3-27 with the board of directors of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
 3-28 District and the Commissioners Court of Runnels County in setting
 3-29 the election date under this section.

3-30 (d) The order calling the election must state:

3-31 (1) the nature of the election, including the
 3-32 proposition that is to appear on the ballot;

3-33 (2) the date of the election;

3-34 (3) the hours during which the polls will be open; and

3-35 (4) the location of the polling places.

3-36 (e) Section 41.001, Election Code, does not apply to an
 3-37 election ordered under this section.

3-38 (f) The board shall give notice of an election under this
 3-39 subchapter by publishing a substantial copy of the election order
 3-40 in a newspaper with general circulation in the district once a week
 3-41 for two consecutive weeks. The first publication must appear not
 3-42 later than the 35th day before the date set for the election.

3-43 (g) The ballot for an election under this subchapter must be
 3-44 printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The
 3-45 dissolution of the North Runnels County Hospital District and the
 3-46 creation of the Runnels County Hospital District, providing for the
 3-47 imposition of an ad valorem tax at a rate not to exceed ____ cents
 3-48 (insert any rate not to exceed 75 cents) on each \$100 valuation of
 3-49 taxable property in Runnels County, and providing for the transfer
 3-50 to and assumption by the Runnels County Hospital District of all
 3-51 outstanding bonds and other obligations issued for hospital
 3-52 purposes by the North Runnels County Hospital District, Runnels
 3-53 County, and any part of a municipality located in Runnels County,
 3-54 and the transfer of the existing North Runnels County Hospital
 3-55 District's assets to the Runnels County Hospital District."

3-56 (h) The board shall find that the district is dissolved if:

3-57 (1) a majority of the votes in an election under this
 3-58 section favor dissolution of the district and creation of the
 3-59 Runnels County Hospital District;

3-60 (2) a majority of the votes in an election held on the
 3-61 same date under Subchapter D-1, Chapter 1004, Special District
 3-62 Local Laws Code, favor dissolution of the Ballinger Memorial
 3-63 Hospital District and creation of the Runnels County Hospital
 3-64 District; and

3-65 (3) a cumulative majority of the votes in all three
 3-66 elections held on the question of creating the Runnels County
 3-67 Hospital District favor creation of the district.

3-68 (i) If a majority of the votes in either election under
 3-69 Subdivision (h)(1) or (2) of this section do not favor dissolution

4-1 of the district and creation of the Runnels County Hospital
4-2 District, or if a cumulative majority of the votes in all three
4-3 elections held on the question of creating the Runnels County
4-4 Hospital District do not favor creation of the district, the board
4-5 shall continue to administer the district, and another election on
4-6 the question of dissolution under this section may not be held
4-7 before the first anniversary of the date of the most recent election
4-8 under this section to dissolve the district.

4-9 (j) If a majority of the votes in both elections under
4-10 Subdivisions (h)(1) and (2) of this section favor dissolution of
4-11 the district and creation of the Runnels County Hospital District,
4-12 and a cumulative majority of the votes in all three elections held
4-13 on the question of creating the Runnels County Hospital District
4-14 favor creation of the district, the board shall transfer the land,
4-15 buildings, improvements, equipment, and other assets belonging to
4-16 the district to the Runnels County Hospital District.

4-17 (k) On the date the district makes the transfer under
4-18 Subsection (j) of this section, the Runnels County Hospital
4-19 District assumes all debts and obligations of the district at the
4-20 time of the transfer. The district is dissolved at the time of the
4-21 transfer and the board is released from any further duty or
4-22 obligation.

4-23 SECTION 2.02. On the dissolution of the North Runnels
4-24 County Hospital District and the approval of the creation of the
4-25 Runnels County Hospital District, a reference in any law to the
4-26 North Runnels County Hospital District means the Runnels County
4-27 Hospital District.

4-28 SECTION 2.03. (a) An election to dissolve the North
4-29 Runnels County Hospital District and create the Runnels County
4-30 Hospital District must be held not later than the fifth anniversary
4-31 of the effective date of this Act.

4-32 (b) If the dissolution of the North Runnels County Hospital
4-33 District and creation of the Runnels County Hospital District are
4-34 not approved at an election held not later than the fifth
4-35 anniversary of the effective date of this Act, Section 20c, Chapter
4-36 206, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, as added
4-37 by this article, expires.

4-38 ARTICLE 3. CREATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

4-39 SECTION 3.01. Subtitle A, Title 3, Special District Local
4-40 Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 1072 to read as follows:

4-41 CHAPTER 1072. RUNNELS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

4-42 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

4-43 Sec. 1072.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

4-44 (1) "Board" means the board of directors of the
4-45 district.

4-46 (2) "Director" means a member of the board.

4-47 (3) "District" means the Runnels County Hospital
4-48 District.

4-49 Sec. 1072.002. AUTHORITY FOR OPERATION. The Runnels County
4-50 Hospital District operates and is financed as provided by Section
4-51 9, Article IX, Texas Constitution, and by this chapter.

4-52 Sec. 1072.003. ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FUNCTION. The district is
4-53 a public entity performing an essential public function.

4-54 Sec. 1072.004. DISTRICT TERRITORY. The boundaries of the
4-55 district are coextensive with the boundaries of Runnels County,
4-56 Texas.

4-57 Sec. 1072.005. DISTRICT SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE NOT STATE
4-58 OBLIGATION. The state may not be obligated for the support or
4-59 maintenance of the district.

4-60 Sec. 1072.006. RESTRICTION ON STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.
4-61 The legislature may not make a direct appropriation for the
4-62 construction, maintenance, or improvement of a district facility.

4-63 [Sections 1072.007-1072.020 reserved for expansion]

4-64 SUBCHAPTER A-1. TEMPORARY PROVISIONS

4-65 Sec. 1072.021. (a) The Commissioners Court of Runnels
4-66 County shall order an election for the registered voters of Runnels
4-67 County who do not reside in the Ballinger Memorial Hospital
4-68 District or the North Runnels County Hospital District on the
4-69 question of creating the Runnels County Hospital District if the

5-1 commissioners court receives notice that:
5-2 (1) the board of directors of the Ballinger Memorial
5-3 Hospital District intends to order an election to dissolve the
5-4 Ballinger Memorial Hospital District and create the Runnels County
5-5 Hospital District under Subchapter D-1, Chapter 1004; and
5-6 (2) the board of directors of the North Runnels County
5-7 Hospital District intends to order an election to dissolve the
5-8 North Runnels County Hospital District and create the Runnels
5-9 County Hospital District under Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of
5-10 the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969.
5-11 (b) The Commissioners Court of Runnels County shall notify
5-12 the boards of directors of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District
5-13 and the North Runnels County Hospital District that the
5-14 commissioners court intends to hold the election under this
5-15 section.
5-16 (c) The election held under this section shall be held on
5-17 the same date as the elections to dissolve the Ballinger Memorial
5-18 Hospital District and the North Runnels County Hospital District
5-19 and to create the Runnels County Hospital District. The
5-20 Commissioners Court of Runnels County shall coordinate with the
5-21 boards of directors of the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District and
5-22 the North Runnels County Hospital District in setting the election
5-23 date under this section.
5-24 (d) The order calling the election under this section must
5-25 state:
5-26 (1) the nature of the election, including the
5-27 proposition that is to appear on the ballot;
5-28 (2) the date of the election;
5-29 (3) the hours during which the polls will be open; and
5-30 (4) the location of the polling places.
5-31 (e) Section 41.001, Election Code, does not apply to an
5-32 election ordered under this section.
5-33 (f) The Commissioners Court of Runnels County shall give
5-34 notice of an election under this section by publishing a
5-35 substantial copy of the election order in a newspaper with general
5-36 circulation in Runnels County once a week for two consecutive
5-37 weeks. The first publication must appear not later than the 35th
5-38 day before the date set for the election.
5-39 (g) The ballot for an election under this section must be
5-40 printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The
5-41 creation of the Runnels County Hospital District, providing for the
5-42 imposition of an ad valorem tax at a rate not to exceed ____ cents
5-43 (insert any rate not to exceed 75 cents) on each \$100 valuation of
5-44 taxable property in Runnels County.
5-45 (h) The Commissioners Court of Runnels County shall find
5-46 that the Runnels County Hospital District is created if:
5-47 (1) a majority of the votes in an election held on the
5-48 same date under Subchapter D-1, Chapter 1004, favor dissolution of
5-49 the Ballinger Memorial Hospital District and creation of the
5-50 Runnels County Hospital District;
5-51 (2) a majority of the votes in an election held on the
5-52 same date under Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st
5-53 Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, favor dissolution of the North
5-54 Runnels County Hospital District and creation of the Runnels County
5-55 Hospital District; and
5-56 (3) a cumulative majority of the votes held in the
5-57 election called by the commissioners court and in the elections
5-58 described by Subdivisions (1) and (2) favor creation of the Runnels
5-59 County Hospital District.
5-60 Sec. 1072.022. TEMPORARY DIRECTORS. (a) If the creation
5-61 of the district is approved at the elections held under Subchapter
5-62 D-1, Chapter 1004, Section 20c, Chapter 206, Acts of the 61st
5-63 Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, and Section 1072.021, the
5-64 following persons shall serve as temporary directors of the Runnels
5-65 County Hospital District:
5-66 (1) Lewis Bergman;
5-67 (2) Charles Brown;
5-68 (3) Mike Dankworth;
5-69 (4) Rodney Flanagan;

- 6-1 (5) Bill Hunter;
- 6-2 (6) Paul Sklenarik;
- 6-3 (7) Dewey Whitfield.

6-4 (b) The temporary board shall serve as the temporary
 6-5 directors of the district until the initial elected directors take
 6-6 office under Section 1072.025.

6-7 (c) A vacancy on the temporary board of directors shall be
 6-8 filled by the Commissioners Court of Runnels County.

6-9 (d) To serve as a temporary director, a person must be:

- 6-10 (1) a resident of the district; and
- 6-11 (2) a qualified voter.

6-12 (e) An employee of the district may not serve as a temporary
 6-13 director.

6-14 Sec. 1072.023. TEMPORARY OFFICERS. (a) The temporary
 6-15 board shall elect a president and a vice president from among the
 6-16 temporary directors.

6-17 (b) The temporary board shall appoint a secretary, who need
 6-18 not be a temporary director.

6-19 (c) The temporary board shall fill a vacancy in a board
 6-20 office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6-21 Sec. 1072.024. ELECTION OF INITIAL ELECTED DIRECTORS.

6-22 (a) The temporary directors shall hold an election to elect seven
 6-23 initial directors on the first uniform election date in May that
 6-24 occurs after the date the district is created. One initial director
 6-25 shall be elected from each commissioners precinct of Runnels County
 6-26 and three initial directors shall be elected from the district at
 6-27 large.

6-28 (b) The temporary directors may postpone the election under
 6-29 Subsection (a) for not more than one year or until the next uniform
 6-30 election date if the temporary directors determine that there is
 6-31 not sufficient time to comply with the requirements of this section
 6-32 or if the temporary directors determine that it is in the best
 6-33 interests of the district to maintain the temporary directors for
 6-34 another year.

6-35 (c) Notice of the election of the initial directors shall be
 6-36 published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the
 6-37 district in accordance with Section 4.003(a), Election Code.

6-38 Sec. 1072.025. INITIAL ELECTED DIRECTORS. (a) The
 6-39 candidate receiving the highest number of votes from each
 6-40 commissioners precinct of Runnels County is the initial elected
 6-41 director for that precinct, and the three candidates receiving the
 6-42 highest number of votes from the district at large are the initial
 6-43 elected directors for the district at large.

6-44 (b) Initial elected directors serve three-year terms.

6-45 (c) To be a candidate for or to serve as an initial elected
 6-46 director, a person must be:

- 6-47 (1) a resident of the district; and
- 6-48 (2) a qualified voter.

6-49 (d) An employee of the district may not serve as an initial
 6-50 elected director.

6-51 Sec. 1072.026. INITIAL ELECTED OFFICERS. (a) The initial
 6-52 elected board shall elect a president and a vice president from
 6-53 among the initial elected directors.

6-54 (b) The initial elected board shall appoint a secretary, who
 6-55 need not be an initial elected director.

6-56 (c) The initial elected board shall fill a vacancy in a
 6-57 board office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6-58 Sec. 1072.027. PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF PERMANENT
 6-59 DIRECTORS. Not later than the date the terms of the initial elected
 6-60 directors expire, the initial elected board shall adopt a procedure
 6-61 for the election of directors under Section 1072.051. The
 6-62 procedure must provide for appropriate representation of the
 6-63 residents of the district and must provide for the first election of
 6-64 permanent directors to occur on the first uniform election date in
 6-65 May that occurs at the end of the initial directors' terms.

6-66 [Sections 1072.028-1072.050 reserved for expansion]

6-67 SUBCHAPTER B. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

6-68 Sec. 1072.051. BOARD ELECTION; TERM. (a) The board
 6-69 consists of seven directors elected in the manner prescribed by the

7-1 initial directors under Section 1072.026.
7-2 (b) An election shall be held each year on the uniform
7-3 election date in May to elect the appropriate number of directors.
7-4 (c) Directors serve staggered three-year terms.
7-5 Sec. 1072.052. NOTICE. Notice of the directors' election
7-6 shall be published at least once in a newspaper with general
7-7 circulation in the district in accordance with Section 4.003(a),
7-8 Election Code.
7-9 Sec. 1072.053. QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE. (a) To be a
7-10 candidate for or to serve as a director, a person must be:
7-11 (1) a resident of the district; and
7-12 (2) a qualified voter.
7-13 (b) An administrator or an employee of the district may not
7-14 serve as a director.
7-15 Sec. 1072.054. DIRECTOR'S BOND. (a) Before assuming the
7-16 duties of office, each director must execute a bond in the amount of
7-17 \$5,000 payable to the district and conditioned on the faithful
7-18 performance of the director's duties.
7-19 (b) The bond shall be kept in the permanent records of the
7-20 district.
7-21 (c) The board may pay for a director's bond with district
7-22 money.
7-23 Sec. 1072.055. BOARD VACANCY. If a vacancy occurs in the
7-24 office of director, the remaining directors shall appoint a
7-25 director for the remainder of the unexpired term.
7-26 Sec. 1072.056. OFFICERS. (a) The board shall elect a
7-27 president and a vice president from among the directors.
7-28 (b) The board shall appoint a secretary, who need not be a
7-29 director.
7-30 (c) Each officer of the board serves a one-year term.
7-31 (d) The board shall fill a vacancy in a board office for the
7-32 remainder of the unexpired term.
7-33 Sec. 1072.057. COMPENSATION; REIMBURSEMENT. A director or
7-34 officer serves without compensation but may be reimbursed for
7-35 actual expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.
7-36 The expenses must be:
7-37 (1) reported in the district's records; and
7-38 (2) approved by the board.
7-39 Sec. 1072.058. VOTING REQUIREMENT. A concurrence of a
7-40 majority of the directors voting is necessary in matters relating
7-41 to district business.
7-42 Sec. 1072.059. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR; ADMINISTRATOR'S
7-43 BOND. (a) The board may appoint a qualified person as district
7-44 administrator.
7-45 (b) The district administrator serves at the will of the
7-46 board.
7-47 (c) The district administrator is entitled to compensation
7-48 determined by the board.
7-49 (d) Before assuming the duties of district administrator,
7-50 the administrator must execute a bond payable to the district in an
7-51 amount not less than \$5,000, as determined by the board,
7-52 conditioned on the faithful performance of the administrator's
7-53 duties.
7-54 (e) The board may pay for the bond with district money.
7-55 Sec. 1072.060. GENERAL DUTIES OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR.
7-56 Subject to the limitations prescribed by the board, the district
7-57 administrator shall:
7-58 (1) supervise the work and activities of the district;
7-59 and
7-60 (2) direct the general affairs of the district.
7-61 Sec. 1072.061. ASSISTANT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR; ATTORNEY.
7-62 (a) The board may appoint qualified persons as assistant district
7-63 administrator and attorney for the district.
7-64 (b) The assistant district administrator and attorney for
7-65 the district serve at the will of the board.
7-66 (c) The assistant district administrator and attorney for
7-67 the district are entitled to compensation determined by the board.
7-68 Sec. 1072.062. EMPLOYEES. (a) The district may employ
7-69 nurses, technicians, fiscal agents, accountants, architects,

8-1 additional attorneys, and other necessary employees.
8-2 (b) The board may delegate to the district administrator the
8-3 authority to employ persons for the district.

8-4 Sec. 1072.063. RECRUITMENT OF MEDICAL STAFF AND EMPLOYEES.
8-5 The board may spend district money, enter into agreements, and take
8-6 other necessary actions to recruit physicians and other persons to
8-7 serve as medical staff members or district employees. The actions
8-8 may include:

8-9 (1) advertising and marketing;
8-10 (2) paying travel, recruitment, and relocation
8-11 expenses;

8-12 (3) providing a loan or scholarship to a physician or a
8-13 person currently enrolled in health care education courses at an
8-14 institution of higher education who contracts to become a medical
8-15 staff member or district employee; or

8-16 (4) contracting with a full-time medical student or
8-17 other student in a health occupation who is enrolled in and in good
8-18 standing at an accredited medical school, college, or university to
8-19 pay the student's tuition or other expenses for the consideration
8-20 of the student agreeing to serve as an employee or independent
8-21 contractor for the district.

8-22 Sec. 1072.064. APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF MEDICAL STAFF.
8-23 The board may:

8-24 (1) appoint to the medical staff any doctor the board
8-25 considers necessary for the efficient operation of the district;

8-26 (2) remove any doctor from the medical staff, after
8-27 due process, if the board considers the doctor's removal necessary
8-28 for the efficient operation of the district; and

8-29 (3) make temporary appointments to the medical staff
8-30 as the board considers necessary.

8-31 Sec. 1072.065. RETIREMENT BENEFITS. The board may provide
8-32 retirement benefits for district employees by:

8-33 (1) establishing or administering a retirement
8-34 program; or

8-35 (2) participating in:
8-36 (A) the Texas County and District Retirement
8-37 System; or

8-38 (B) another statewide retirement system in which
8-39 the district is eligible to participate.

8-40 [Sections 1072.066-1072.100 reserved for expansion]

8-41 SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

8-42 Sec. 1072.101. DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY. The district has
8-43 full responsibility for operating hospital facilities and
8-44 providing medical and hospital care for the district's needy
8-45 residents.

8-46 Sec. 1072.102. MANAGEMENT, CONTROL, AND ADMINISTRATION.
8-47 The board shall manage, control, and administer the hospital system
8-48 and the money and resources of the district.

8-49 Sec. 1072.103. RULES. The board may adopt rules governing:

8-50 (1) the operation of the hospital and hospital system;
8-51 and

8-52 (2) the duties, functions, and responsibilities of
8-53 district staff and employees.

8-54 Sec. 1072.104. PURCHASING AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES. The
8-55 board may prescribe:

8-56 (1) the method of making purchases and expenditures by
8-57 and for the district; and

8-58 (2) accounting and control procedures for the
8-59 district.

8-60 Sec. 1072.105. PROVISION OF CERTAIN HEALTH SERVICES.

8-61 (a) The district may operate or provide for the operation of a
8-62 mobile emergency medical service.

8-63 (b) The district may operate or provide for home health
8-64 services, long-term care, skilled nursing care, intermediate
8-65 nursing care, or hospice care.

8-66 Sec. 1072.106. DISTRICT PROPERTY, FACILITIES, AND
8-67 EQUIPMENT. (a) The board shall determine:

8-68 (1) the type, number, and location of buildings
8-69 required to maintain an adequate hospital system; and

9-1 (2) the type of equipment necessary for hospital care.

9-2 (b) The board may:

9-3 (1) acquire property, facilities, and equipment for
9-4 the district for use in the hospital system;

9-5 (2) mortgage or pledge the property, facilities, or
9-6 equipment as security for payment of the purchase price;

9-7 (3) sell or otherwise dispose of property, facilities,
9-8 or equipment for the district; or

9-9 (4) lease hospital facilities for the district.

9-10 Sec. 1072.107. OPERATING AND MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS. The
9-11 board may enter into operating or management contracts relating to
9-12 hospital facilities for the district.

9-13 Sec. 1072.108. SERVICE CONTRACTS. (a) The board may
9-14 contract with a public or private hospital, a political subdivision
9-15 of the state, or a state or federal agency for the district to
9-16 provide a mobile emergency medical service or other health care
9-17 services needed to provide for the investigatory or welfare needs
9-18 of residents of the district.

9-19 (b) The board may contract with a person to receive or
9-20 supply the services the board considers necessary for the effective
9-21 operation of the district.

9-22 Sec. 1072.109. EMINENT DOMAIN. (a) The district may
9-23 exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire a fee simple or
9-24 other interest in property located in district territory if the
9-25 interest is necessary for the district to exercise the rights or
9-26 authority conferred by this chapter.

9-27 (b) The district must exercise the power of eminent domain
9-28 in the manner provided by Chapter 21, Property Code, except that the
9-29 district is not required to deposit with the trial court money or a
9-30 bond as provided by Section 21.021(a), Property Code.

9-31 (c) In a condemnation proceeding brought by the district,
9-32 the district is not required to:

9-33 (1) pay in advance or provide bond or other security
9-34 for costs in the trial court;

9-35 (2) provide bond for the issuance of a temporary
9-36 restraining order or a temporary injunction; or

9-37 (3) provide a bond for costs or a supersedeas bond on
9-38 an appeal or writ of error.

9-39 Sec. 1072.110. COST OF RELOCATING OR ALTERING PROPERTY. In
9-40 exercising the power of eminent domain, if the board requires
9-41 relocating, raising, lowering, rerouting, changing the grade, or
9-42 altering the construction of any railroad, highway, pipeline, or
9-43 electric transmission and electric distribution, telegraph, or
9-44 telephone line, conduit, pole, or facility, the district shall pay
9-45 the actual cost of that activity to provide a comparable
9-46 replacement, without enhancement of facilities, after deducting
9-47 the net salvage value derived from the old facility.

9-48 Sec. 1072.111. GIFTS AND ENDOWMENTS. The board may accept
9-49 for the district a gift or endowment to be held in trust for any
9-50 purpose and under any direction, limitation, or provision in
9-51 writing by the donor that is consistent with the proper management
9-52 of the district.

9-53 Sec. 1072.112. PAYMENT FOR TREATMENT; PROCEDURES.

9-54 (a) When a person who resides in the district is admitted as a
9-55 patient to a district facility, the district administrator may have
9-56 an inquiry made into the financial circumstances of:

9-57 (1) the patient; and

9-58 (2) a relative of the patient who is legally
9-59 responsible for the patient's support.

9-60 (b) To the extent that the patient or a relative of the
9-61 patient who is legally responsible for the patient's support cannot
9-62 pay for care and treatment provided by the district, the district
9-63 shall supply the care and treatment without charging the patient or
9-64 the patient's relative.

9-65 (c) On determining that the patient or a relative legally
9-66 responsible for the patient's support can pay for all or part of the
9-67 care and treatment provided by the district, the district
9-68 administrator shall report that determination to the board, and the
9-69 board shall issue an order directing the patient or the relative to

10-1 pay the district a specified amount each week. The amount must be
10-2 based on the person's ability to pay.

10-3 (d) The district administrator may collect money owed to the
10-4 district from the patient's estate or from that of a relative
10-5 legally responsible for the patient's support in the manner
10-6 provided by law for the collection of expenses in the last illness
10-7 of a deceased person.

10-8 (e) If there is a dispute relating to a person's ability to
10-9 pay or if the district administrator has any doubt concerning a
10-10 person's ability to pay, the board shall call witnesses, hear and
10-11 resolve the question, and issue a final order. The order may be
10-12 appealed to a district court in the county in which the district is
10-13 located. The substantial evidence rule applies to an appeal under
10-14 this subsection.

10-15 Sec. 1072.113. REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES. (a) The board
10-16 shall require a county, municipality, or public hospital located
10-17 outside of the district to reimburse the district for the
10-18 district's care and treatment of a sick or injured person of that
10-19 county, municipality, or hospital, as provided by Chapter 61,
10-20 Health and Safety Code.

10-21 (b) The board shall require the sheriff of Runnels County to
10-22 reimburse the district for the district's care and treatment of a
10-23 person who is confined in a jail facility of Runnels County and is
10-24 not a resident of the district.

10-25 (c) On behalf of the district, the board may contract with
10-26 the state or federal government for that government to reimburse
10-27 the district for treatment of a sick or injured person.

10-28 Sec. 1072.114. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. (a) The district
10-29 may create and sponsor a nonprofit corporation under the Business
10-30 Organizations Code and may contribute money to or solicit money for
10-31 the corporation.

10-32 (b) A corporation created under this section may use money
10-33 contributed by the district only to provide health care or other
10-34 services the district is authorized to provide under this chapter.

10-35 (c) The corporation may invest the corporation's money in
10-36 any manner in which the district may invest the district's money,
10-37 including investing money as authorized by Chapter 2256, Government
10-38 Code.

10-39 (d) The board shall establish controls to ensure that the
10-40 corporation uses its money as required by this section.

10-41 Sec. 1072.115. AUTHORITY TO SUE AND BE SUED. The board may
10-42 sue and be sued on behalf of the district.

10-43 Sec. 1072.116. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS; ADVERTISING FOR
10-44 CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS. (a) The board may enter into a
10-45 construction contract on the district's behalf.

10-46 (b) The board may enter into a construction contract only
10-47 after competitive bidding as provided by Subchapter B, Chapter 271,
10-48 Local Government Code, if the amount of the contract is greater than
10-49 the amount provided by Section 271.024 of that code.

10-50 [Sections 1072.117-1072.150 reserved for expansion]

10-51 SUBCHAPTER D. GENERAL FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

10-52 Sec. 1072.151. BUDGET. (a) The district administrator
10-53 shall prepare a proposed annual budget for the district.

10-54 (b) The proposed budget must contain a complete financial
10-55 statement, including a statement of:

10-56 (1) the outstanding obligations of the district;

10-57 (2) the amount of cash on hand to the credit of each
10-58 fund of the district;

10-59 (3) the amount of money received by the district from
10-60 all sources during the previous year;

10-61 (4) the amount of money available to the district from
10-62 all sources during the ensuing year;

10-63 (5) the amount of the balances expected at the end of
10-64 the year in which the budget is being prepared;

10-65 (6) the estimated amount of revenues and balances
10-66 available to cover the proposed budget; and

10-67 (7) the estimated tax rate required.

10-68 Sec. 1072.152. NOTICE; HEARING; ADOPTION OF BUDGET.

10-69 (a) The board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget.

11-1 (b) The board shall publish notice of the hearing in a
11-2 newspaper with general circulation in the district not later than
11-3 the 10th day before the date of the hearing.

11-4 (c) Any district resident is entitled to be present and
11-5 participate at the hearing.

11-6 (d) At the conclusion of the hearing, the board shall adopt
11-7 a budget by acting on the budget proposed by the district
11-8 administrator. The board may make a change in the proposed budget
11-9 that the board determines to be in the interests of the taxpayers.

11-10 (e) The budget is effective only after adoption by the
11-11 board.

11-12 Sec. 1072.153. AMENDMENT OF BUDGET. After the budget is
11-13 adopted, the budget may be amended on the board's approval.

11-14 Sec. 1072.154. FISCAL YEAR. (a) The district operates
11-15 according to a fiscal year established by the board.

11-16 (b) The fiscal year may not be changed:

11-17 (1) during a period in which revenue bonds of the
11-18 district are outstanding; or

11-19 (2) more than once in a 24-month period.

11-20 Sec. 1072.155. ANNUAL AUDIT. The board shall have an annual
11-21 audit made of the financial condition of the district.

11-22 Sec. 1072.156. INSPECTION OF ANNUAL AUDIT AND DISTRICT
11-23 RECORDS. The annual audit and other district records are open to
11-24 inspection during regular business hours at the principal office of
11-25 the district.

11-26 Sec. 1072.157. FINANCIAL REPORT. As soon as practicable
11-27 after the close of each fiscal year, the district administrator
11-28 shall prepare for the board a sworn statement of the amount of
11-29 district money and an account of the disbursement of that money.

11-30 Sec. 1072.158. SHORT-TERM FINANCING. The district may
11-31 borrow money through short-term financing.

11-32 Sec. 1072.159. DEBT LIMITATION. Except as provided by
11-33 Chapter 1207, Government Code, and Sections 1072.116, 1072.201, and
11-34 1072.204, the district may not incur a debt payable from district
11-35 revenue other than revenue available in the current fiscal year and
11-36 the immediately following fiscal year of the district.

11-37 Sec. 1072.160. DEPOSITORY. (a) The board shall select at
11-38 least one bank to serve as a depository for district money.

11-39 (b) The board may solicit bids from local financial
11-40 institutions to determine which institution may serve as a
11-41 depository for district money.

11-42 (c) District money, other than money invested as provided by
11-43 Section 1072.161 and money transmitted to a bank for payment of
11-44 bonds or obligations issued or assumed by the district, shall be
11-45 deposited as received with the depository bank and shall remain on
11-46 deposit. This subsection does not limit the board's power to place
11-47 part of the district's money on time deposit or to purchase
11-48 certificates of deposit.

11-49 (d) The district may deposit money with a bank in an amount
11-50 that exceeds the maximum amount secured by the Federal Deposit
11-51 Insurance Corporation only if the bank first executes a bond or
11-52 other security in an amount sufficient to secure from loss the
11-53 district money that exceeds the amount secured by the Federal
11-54 Deposit Insurance Corporation.

11-55 Sec. 1072.161. RESTRICTION ON INVESTMENT. The board may
11-56 invest operating, depreciation, or building reserves only in funds
11-57 or securities specified by Chapter 2256, Government Code.

11-58 [Sections 1072.162-1072.200 reserved for expansion]

11-59 SUBCHAPTER E. BONDS

11-60 Sec. 1072.201. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS. If authorized by
11-61 an election, the board may issue and sell general obligation bonds
11-62 in the name and on the faith and credit of the district to:

11-63 (1) purchase, construct, acquire, repair, or renovate
11-64 buildings or improvements;

11-65 (2) equip buildings or improvements for hospital
11-66 purposes; or

11-67 (3) acquire and operate a mobile emergency medical
11-68 service.

11-69 Sec. 1072.202. TAX TO PAY GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.

12-1 (a) At the time general obligation bonds are issued by the
12-2 district under Section 1072.201, the board shall impose an ad
12-3 valorem tax in an amount sufficient to create an interest and
12-4 sinking fund to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as
12-5 the bonds mature.

12-6 (b) The tax required by this section together with any other
12-7 tax the district imposes in any year may not exceed the limit
12-8 approved by the voters at the election authorizing the imposition
12-9 of taxes.

12-10 Sec. 1072.203. GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ELECTION. (a) The
12-11 district may issue general obligation bonds only if the bonds are
12-12 authorized by a majority of the voters voting in an election held
12-13 for that purpose.

12-14 (b) The board may order a bond election. The order calling
12-15 the election must specify:

- 12-16 (1) the nature and date of the election;
- 12-17 (2) the hours during which the polls will be open;
- 12-18 (3) the location of polling places;
- 12-19 (4) the amounts of the bonds to be authorized; and
- 12-20 (5) the maximum maturity of the bonds.

12-21 (c) Notice of a bond election must be given as provided by
12-22 Chapter 1251, Government Code.

12-23 (d) The board shall declare the results of the election.

12-24 Sec. 1072.204. REVENUE BONDS. (a) The board may issue
12-25 revenue bonds to:

- 12-26 (1) acquire, purchase, construct, repair, renovate,
12-27 or equip buildings or improvements for hospital purposes;
- 12-28 (2) acquire sites to be used for hospital purposes; or
- 12-29 (3) acquire and operate a mobile emergency medical
12-30 service to assist the district in carrying out its hospital
12-31 purposes.

12-32 (b) The bonds must be payable from and secured by a pledge of
12-33 all or part of the revenues derived from the operation of the
12-34 district's hospital system.

12-35 (c) The bonds may be additionally secured by a mortgage or
12-36 deed of trust lien on all or part of the district property.

12-37 (d) The bonds must be issued in the manner provided by
12-38 Sections 264.042, 264.043, 264.046, 264.047, 264.048, and 264.049,
12-39 Health and Safety Code, for issuance of revenue bonds by county
12-40 hospital authorities.

12-41 Sec. 1072.205. MATURITY. District bonds must mature not
12-42 later than 40 years after the date of their issuance.

12-43 Sec. 1072.206. EXECUTION OF BONDS. (a) The board
12-44 president shall execute district bonds in the district's name.

12-45 (b) The board secretary shall countersign the bonds in the
12-46 manner provided by Chapter 618, Government Code.

12-47 Sec. 1072.207. BONDS NOT SUBJECT TO TAXATION. The
12-48 following are not subject to taxation by the state or by a political
12-49 subdivision of the state:

- 12-50 (1) bonds issued by the district;
- 12-51 (2) any transaction relating to the bonds; and
- 12-52 (3) profits made in the sale of the bonds.

12-53 [Sections 1072.208-1072.250 reserved for expansion]

12-54 SUBCHAPTER F. AD VALOREM TAX

12-55 Sec. 1072.251. IMPOSITION OF AD VALOREM TAX. (a) The
12-56 board shall impose a tax on all property in the district subject to
12-57 hospital district taxation.

12-58 (b) The tax may be used to pay:

- 12-59 (1) indebtedness issued or assumed by the district;
12-60 and
- 12-61 (2) the maintenance and operating expenses of the
12-62 district.

12-63 (c) The district may not impose a tax to pay the principal of
12-64 or interest on revenue bonds issued under this chapter.

12-65 Sec. 1072.252. TAX RATE. (a) The board may impose an
12-66 annual tax at a rate not to exceed the limit approved by the voters
12-67 at the election authorizing the imposition of a tax.

12-68 (b) The tax rate on all taxable property in the district for
12-69 all purposes may not exceed 75 cents on each \$100 valuation of the

13-1 property according to the most recent certified tax appraisal roll
 13-2 of the district.

13-3 (c) In setting the tax rate, the board shall consider
 13-4 district income from sources other than taxation.

13-5 Sec. 1072.253. TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR. The board may
 13-6 provide for the appointment of a tax assessor-collector for the
 13-7 district or may contract for the assessment and collection of taxes
 13-8 as provided by the Tax Code.

13-9 [Sections 1072.254-1072.300 reserved for expansion]

13-10 SUBCHAPTER G. DISSOLUTION

13-11 Sec. 1072.301. DISSOLUTION; ELECTION. (a) The district
 13-12 may be dissolved only on approval of a majority of the voters voting
 13-13 in an election held for that purpose.

13-14 (b) The board may order an election on the question of
 13-15 dissolving the district and disposing of the district's assets and
 13-16 obligations.

13-17 (c) The board shall order an election if the board receives
 13-18 a petition requesting an election that is signed by at least 15
 13-19 percent of the district's registered voters.

13-20 (d) The order calling the election must state:

13-21 (1) the nature of the election, including the
 13-22 proposition that is to appear on the ballot;

13-23 (2) the date of the election;

13-24 (3) the hours during which the polls will be open; and

13-25 (4) the location of the polling places.

13-26 (e) Section 41.001, Election Code, does not apply to an
 13-27 election ordered under this section.

13-28 Sec. 1072.302. NOTICE OF ELECTION. (a) The board shall
 13-29 give notice of an election under this subchapter by publishing a
 13-30 substantial copy of the election order in a newspaper with general
 13-31 circulation in the district once a week for two consecutive weeks.

13-32 (b) The first publication must appear not later than the
 13-33 35th day before the date set for the election.

13-34 Sec. 1072.303. BALLOT. The ballot for an election under
 13-35 this subchapter must be printed to permit voting for or against the
 13-36 proposition: "The dissolution of the North Runnels County Hospital
 13-37 District."

13-38 Sec. 1072.304. ELECTION RESULTS. (a) If a majority of the
 13-39 votes in an election under this subchapter favor dissolution, the
 13-40 board shall order that the district be dissolved.

13-41 (b) If a majority of the votes in an election under this
 13-42 subchapter do not favor dissolution, the board shall continue to
 13-43 administer the district, and another election on the question of
 13-44 dissolution may not be held before the first anniversary of the date
 13-45 of the most recent election to dissolve the district.

13-46 Sec. 1072.305. TRANSFER OR ADMINISTRATION OF ASSETS.

13-47 (a) If a majority of the votes in an election under this subchapter
 13-48 favor dissolution, the board shall:

13-49 (1) transfer the land, buildings, improvements,
 13-50 equipment, and other assets belonging to the district to Runnels
 13-51 County or another governmental entity in Runnels County; or

13-52 (2) administer the property, assets, and debts of the
 13-53 district until all money has been disposed of and all district debts
 13-54 have been paid or settled.

13-55 (b) If the district makes a transfer under Subsection
 13-56 (a)(1), the county or governmental entity assumes all debts and
 13-57 obligations of the district at the time of the transfer. The
 13-58 district is dissolved at the time of the transfer.

13-59 (c) If the district administers the property, assets, and
 13-60 debts of the district under Subsection (a)(2), the district is
 13-61 dissolved when all money has been disposed of and all district debts
 13-62 have been paid or settled.

13-63 Sec. 1072.306. IMPOSITION OF TAX AND RETURN OF SURPLUS
 13-64 TAXES. (a) After the board determines that the district is
 13-65 dissolved, the board shall:

13-66 (1) determine the debt owed by the district; and

13-67 (2) impose on the property included in the district's
 13-68 tax rolls a tax that is in proportion of the debt to the property
 13-69 value.

14-1 (b) On the payment of all outstanding debts and obligations
14-2 of the district, the board shall order the secretary to return to
14-3 each district taxpayer the taxpayer's pro rata share of all unused
14-4 tax money.

14-5 (c) A taxpayer may request that the taxpayer's share of
14-6 surplus tax money be credited to the taxpayer's county taxes. If a
14-7 taxpayer requests the credit, the board shall direct the secretary
14-8 to transmit the funds to the county tax assessor-collector.

14-9 Sec. 1072.307. REPORT; DISSOLUTION ORDER. (a) After the
14-10 district has paid all its debts and has disposed of all its money
14-11 and other assets as prescribed by this subchapter, the board shall
14-12 file a written report with the Commissioners Court of Runnels
14-13 County summarizing the board's actions in dissolving the district.

14-14 (b) Not later than the 10th day after the date the
14-15 Commissioners Court of Runnels County receives the report and
14-16 determines that the requirements of this subchapter have been
14-17 fulfilled, the commissioners court shall enter an order dissolving
14-18 the district and releasing the board from any further duty or
14-19 obligation.

14-20 SECTION 3.02. The members of the board of directors of the
14-21 Runnels County Hospital District elected at the first election held
14-22 under Section 1072.051, Special District Local Laws Code, as added
14-23 by this Act, shall draw lots to determine the terms each director
14-24 serves. Three directors shall serve two-year terms and four
14-25 directors shall serve three-year terms. Successor directors shall
14-26 serve three-year terms.

14-27 SECTION 3.03. If the creation of the Runnels County
14-28 Hospital District is not approved at an election held not later than
14-29 the fifth anniversary of the effective date of this Act, Chapter
14-30 1072, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this article,
14-31 expires.

ARTICLE 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

14-32 SECTION 4.01. This Act takes effect immediately if it
14-33 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
14-34 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
14-35 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
14-36 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

14-38 * * * * *