

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 2936
By: Castro
Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Although a provision of law relating to judicial districts in Bexar County applies to most Bexar County district courts, it does not currently apply to all Bexar County district courts. C.S.H.B. 2936 seeks to treat all Bexar County district courts consistently under the Government Code by extending a provision of law relating to judicial districts in Bexar County to apply to the district courts in Bexar County that are not currently included.

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

C.S.H.B. 2936 amends the Government Code to make provisions relating to the 37th Judicial District, composed of Bexar County, applicable to the 379th, 386th, 399th, 407th, 408th, 436th, 437th, and 438th district courts in Bexar County. The bill adds the 289th, 379th, 399th, and 437th district courts to the list of district courts that are required to give preference to criminal cases and have terms that are set to begin on the first Mondays in January and July and continuing until the court has disposed of the business for that term. The bill sets the terms of the 407th, 408th, and 438th district courts to begin on the first Mondays in January and July. The bill requires the 386th and 436th district courts to give preference to juvenile matters under the Juvenile Justice Code and establishes that the terms of those courts are set to begin on the first Mondays in July and January and continue until the court has disposed of the business for that term. The bill requires the 289th District Court in Bexar County to give preference to juvenile matters under the Juvenile Justice Code, rather than to cases and proceedings under the Juvenile Justice Code and under provisions of law relating to the child in relation to the family and the parent-child relationship and the suit affecting the parent-child relationship. The bill clarifies that the juvenile matters required to be given preference in the 386th and 436th district courts in Bexar County are juvenile matters under the Juvenile Justice Code.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2011.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE

C.S.H.B. 2936 omits provisions contained in the original including the 386th and 436th district courts in the list of district courts that are required to give preference to criminal cases. The substitute contains a provision not included in the original requiring the 386th and 436th district courts to give preference to certain juvenile matters and setting out the terms of those courts.

C.S.H.B. 2936 contains a provision not included in the original requiring the 289th District Court to give preference to certain juvenile matters.

C.S.H.B. 2936 differs from the original by specifying that the juvenile matters required to be given preference in the 386th and 436th district courts are juvenile matters under the Juvenile Justice Code, whereas the original requires those courts to give preference to criminal matters.

C.S.H.B. 2936 omits provisions contained in the original repealing certain Government Code provisions relating to the consolidation of the minutes of the 37th Judicial District and relating to bonds taken for the appearance of defendants, parties, or witnesses.