

AN ACT

relating to the duties and responsibilities of certain county officials and the functions of county government.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.605(c), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A clerk must each year [~~annually~~] complete 20 hours of continuing education courses. A clerk must, during the first year of each term of office, complete:

(1) [~~including~~] at least one hour of continuing education courses regarding registry funds handled under Chapter 117, Local Government Code, in the performance of the duties of office; and

(2) [~~. The 20 hours of required continuing education courses must include~~] at least one hour of continuing education courses regarding fraudulent court documents and fraudulent document filings.

SECTION 2. Section 62.106(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person qualified to serve as a petit juror may establish an exemption from jury service if the person:

(1) is over 70 years of age;

(2) has legal custody of a child younger than 12 [~~15~~] years of age and the person's service on the jury requires leaving

1 the child without adequate supervision;

2 (3) is a student of a public or private secondary
3 school;

4 (4) is a person enrolled and in actual attendance at an
5 institution of higher education;

6 (5) is an officer or an employee of the senate, the
7 house of representatives, or any department, commission, board,
8 office, or other agency in the legislative branch of state
9 government;

10 (6) is summoned for service in a county with a
11 population of at least 200,000, unless that county uses a jury plan
12 under Section 62.011 and the period authorized under Section
13 62.011(b)(5) exceeds two years, and the person has served as a petit
14 juror in the county during the 24-month period preceding the date
15 the person is to appear for jury service;

16 (7) is the primary caretaker of a person who is an
17 invalid unable to care for himself;

18 (8) except as provided by Subsection (b), is summoned
19 for service in a county with a population of at least 250,000 and
20 the person has served as a petit juror in the county during the
21 three-year period preceding the date the person is to appear for
22 jury service; or

23 (9) is a member of the United States military forces
24 serving on active duty and deployed to a location away from the
25 person's home station and out of the person's county of residence.

26 SECTION 3. Section 191.0045, Health and Safety Code, is
27 amended by amending Subsection (h) and adding Subsection (i) to

1 read as follows:

2 (h) In addition to other fees collected under this section,
3 a local registrar or county clerk may collect a fee not to exceed \$1
4 for:

5 (1) preserving [~~the preservation of~~] vital statistics
6 records maintained by the registrar or county clerk, including
7 birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, and annulment
8 records;

9 (2) training registrar or county clerk employees
10 regarding vital statistics records; and

11 (3) ensuring the safety and security of vital
12 statistics records.

13 (i) A fee under this section shall be collected by the
14 registrar or county clerk on the issuance of a vital statistics
15 record, including a record issued through a Remote Birth Access
16 site.

17 SECTION 4. Section 132.002(a), Local Government Code, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The commissioners court of a county may authorize a
20 county or precinct officer who collects fees, fines, court costs,
21 or other charges on behalf of the county or the state to accept
22 payment by credit card or electronic means of a fee, fine, court
23 costs, or other charge. The commissioners court may also authorize
24 a county or precinct officer to collect and retain a fee for
25 processing the payment by credit card or electronic means.

26 SECTION 5. Section 191.030, Health and Safety Code, is
27 repealed.

1 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2717 was passed by the House on April 21, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2717 on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2717 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor