

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 1242  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2011; March 16, 2011, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;  
1-4 March 30, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,  
1-5 Nays 0; March 30, 2011, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to the judicial immunity and powers of certain  
1-9 magistrates.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subsection (b), Section 54.1176, Government  
1-12 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-13 (b) The judge shall adopt, modify, or reject the  
1-14 magistrate's recommendations not later than the third working day  
1-15 after the date the judge receives the recommendations. If the judge  
1-16 does not take action in the time provided by this subsection, the  
1-17 recommendations of the magistrate are adopted by the judge.

1-18 SECTION 2. Subchapter W, Chapter 54, Government Code, is  
1-19 amended by adding Section 54.1177 to read as follows:

1-20 Sec. 54.1177. JUDICIAL IMMUNITY. A magistrate appointed  
1-21 under this subchapter has the same judicial immunity as a district  
1-22 judge.

1-23 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act to Subsection  
1-24 (b), Section 54.1176, Government Code, apply to a cause of action  
1-25 referred to a magistrate on or after the effective date of this Act.  
1-26 A cause of action referred to a magistrate before the effective date  
1-27 of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before that  
1-28 date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-29 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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