

By: Moody, Sheets, Clardy

H.B. No. 520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the assignment of certain judges as a visiting judge.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 74.055(c), Government Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (c) To be eligible to be named on the list, a retired or
7 former judge must:

8 (1) have served as an active judge for:

9 (A) at least 96 months in a district, statutory
10 probate, statutory county, or appellate court; or

11 (B) at least 48 months in a district, statutory
12 county, statutory probate, or appellate court, if the retired or
13 former judge has served as judge of more than two district,
14 statutory county, statutory probate, or appellate courts;

15 (2) have developed substantial experience in the
16 judge's area of specialty;

17 (3) not have been removed from office;

18 (4) certify under oath to the presiding judge, on a
19 form prescribed by the state board of regional judges, that:

20 (A) the judge has never been publicly reprimanded
21 or censured by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct; and

22 (B) the judge:

23 (i) did not resign or retire from office
24 after the State Commission on Judicial Conduct notified the judge

1 of the commencement of a full investigation into an allegation or
2 appearance of misconduct or disability of the judge as provided in
3 Section 33.022 and before the final disposition of that
4 investigation; or

5 (ii) if the judge did resign from office
6 under circumstances described by Subparagraph (i), was not publicly
7 reprimanded or censured as a result of the investigation;

8 (5) annually demonstrate that the judge has completed
9 in the past state fiscal year the educational requirements for
10 active district, statutory probate, and statutory county court
11 judges; and

12 (6) certify to the presiding judge a willingness not
13 to appear and plead as an attorney in any court in this state for a
14 period of two years.

15 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.