

AN ACT

relating to the prohibition of more than one counsel appearing in a misdemeanor case.

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

SECTION 1. Article 45.020(b), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(b) [~~Not more than one counsel shall conduct either the prosecution or defense.~~] State's counsel may open and conclude the argument in the case.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a criminal proceeding that commences on or after the effective date of this Act. A criminal proceeding that commences before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the proceeding commences, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1386 was passed by the House on May 5, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1386 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor