

By: Peña

H.B. No. 1511

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to appointment of a municipal judge to serve as a visiting
3 justice of the peace in certain proceedings involving misdemeanor
4 traffic offenses.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 27, Government Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 27.0551 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 27.0551. MUNICIPAL JUDGE ACTING AS VISITING JUSTICE.

9 (a) A justice of the peace, with the approval of the county judge,
10 may appoint a person serving as a municipal court judge in a
11 municipality located in the same county as the precinct for which
12 the justice of the peace serves to serve as a visiting justice of
13 the peace in criminal cases involving a misdemeanor traffic
14 offense.

15 (b) The visiting justice shall sit in those matters
16 authorized by the justice of the peace and has the powers of the
17 justice of the peace in relation to those matters.

18 (c) When a visiting justice is appointed, the clerk shall
19 enter in the minutes as part of the proceedings in the case a record
20 that gives the visiting justice's name and shows that the justice
21 of the peace has appointed the municipal court judge to serve as a
22 visiting justice.

23 (d) The salary of a visiting justice appointed as provided
24 by this section shall be paid from the budget of the justice of the

1 peace for whom the visiting justice is sitting.

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