

By: Perry
(Smithee)

S.B. No. 1913

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a court administrator in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 75.401, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 75.401. COURT ADMINISTRATOR SYSTEM FOR DISTRICT AND STATUTORY COUNTY COURTS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES.

SECTION 2. Sections 75.401(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) In a county that has more than one district court or statutory ~~[county criminal court or more than one]~~ county court ~~[at law having both criminal and civil jurisdiction]~~, those courts may establish and maintain, on approval of the commissioners court, a court administrator system.

(b) The judges of the district courts ~~[county criminal courts]~~ or the statutory county courts may ~~[at law having both criminal and civil jurisdiction shall]~~ by local rule designate local court divisions and the duties of the court administrator for each division, if applicable. The court administrator shall cooperate with regional, presiding, and local ~~[the]~~ administrative judges and state agencies having duties relating to the operation of the courts to promote uniform and efficient administration of justice.

(c) The court administrator is appointed by the judges of

1 the district courts or [~~county criminal courts or~~] the statutory
2 county courts served by the court administrator. The court
3 administrator [~~at law having both criminal and civil jurisdiction~~
4 ~~and~~] serves at the pleasure of those [~~the~~] judges.

5 (d) A court administrator is entitled to reasonable
6 compensation, facilities, and equipment as determined by the judges
7 served, with the approval of [~~as set by~~] the commissioners court.

8 (e) The judges of the courts served by the court
9 administrator, with the approval of the commissioners court, shall
10 appoint appropriate staff and support personnel according to the
11 needs of the local jurisdiction.

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