

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 409

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of county and justice courts in civil matters.

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

SECTION 1. Section 26.042(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A county court has concurrent jurisdiction with the justice courts in civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds \$200 in value but does not exceed \$20,000 [~~\$10,000~~], exclusive of interest.

SECTION 2. Section 27.031(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction and powers provided by the constitution and other law, the justice court has original jurisdiction of:

(1) civil matters in which exclusive jurisdiction is not in the district or county court and in which the amount in controversy is not more than \$20,000 [~~\$10,000~~], exclusive of interest;

(2) cases of forcible entry and detainer;

(3) foreclosure of mortgages and enforcement of liens on personal property in cases in which the amount in controversy is otherwise within the justice court's jurisdiction; and

(4) cases arising under Chapter 707, Transportation

1 Code, outside a municipality's territorial limits.

2 SECTION 3. This Act applies only to a cause of action filed
3 on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of action filed
4 before that date is governed by the law in effect immediately before
5 that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.