

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 409

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the jurisdiction of county and justice courts in civil  
3 matters.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (2) cases of forcible entry and detainer;

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

24 (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.