

By: Holland

H.B. No. 1741

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of an additional county court at law in Rockwall County.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.2011, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 25.2011. ROCKWALL COUNTY. Rockwall County has the following statutory county courts:

(1) ~~[one statutory county court,~~ the County Court at Law No. 1 of Rockwall County; and

(2) the County Court at Law No. 2 of Rockwall County.

SECTION 2. Sections 25.2012(c), (g), and (h), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) The district clerk serves as clerk of a county court at law except that the county clerk serves as clerk of a ~~[the]~~ county court at law in matters of mental health, the probate and criminal misdemeanor docket, and all civil matters in which a ~~[the]~~ county court at law does not have concurrent jurisdiction with a ~~[the]~~ district court.

(g) When administering a case for a ~~[the]~~ county court at law, the district clerk shall charge civil fees and court costs as if the case had been filed in a ~~[the]~~ district court. In a case of concurrent jurisdiction, the case shall be assigned to either a ~~[the]~~ district court or a ~~[the]~~ county court at law in accordance

1 with local administrative rules established by the local
2 administrative judge.

3 (h) The judge of a [~~the~~] county court at law shall appoint an
4 official court reporter for the judge's court and shall set the
5 official court reporter's annual salary, subject to approval by the
6 county commissioners court. The official court reporter of a [~~the~~]
7 county court at law shall take an oath or affirmation as an officer
8 of the court. The official court reporter holds office at the
9 pleasure of the judge [~~of the court~~] and shall be provided a private
10 office in close proximity to the court. The official court reporter
11 is entitled to all rights and benefits afforded all other county
12 employees.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.