

AN ACT

relating to a person qualified to serve as a temporary justice of the peace.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 27.055(c) and (e), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) In this section [~~Subsections (b) and (f)~~], "qualified person" means a person who has served as a justice of the peace, county judge, or the judge of a county court at law for not less than four [~~4 1/2~~] years and who has not been convicted of a criminal offense that involves moral turpitude.

(e) The county judge may appoint any qualified voter under Section 11.002, Election Code, who has experience and knowledge relevant to judicial or justice court processes and procedures and is approved by the county judge and a justice of the peace in the county, to serve as a temporary justice of the peace if the judge cannot find a qualified person who agrees to serve under this section [~~Subsection (b) or (f)~~].

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a temporary justice of the peace appointed on or after the effective date of this Act.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3081 was passed by the House on May 7, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3081 on May 24, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 7, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3081 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor