88R9896 AJZ-F

By:  Jones of Harris H.B. No. 1835

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the venue for prosecution of misdemeanor cases in justice courts.

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

SECTION 1.  Article 4.12(a), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  Except as otherwise provided by this article, a misdemeanor case to be tried in justice court shall be tried:

(1)  in the precinct in which the offense was committed;

(2)  in the precinct in which the defendant or any of the defendants reside;

(3)  with the written consent of the state and each defendant or the defendant's attorney, in any other precinct within the county; or

(4)  if the offense was committed in a county with a population of 3.3 million or more, in any precinct that is:

(A)  [~~in the county that is~~] adjacent to the precinct in which the offense was committed; and

(B)  located in that county.

SECTION 2.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a misdemeanor case that is initially filed in a justice court on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the offense for which the case is filed occurred before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.