

AN ACT

relating to the delegation of certain authority of a county judge or commissioners court in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 81.029(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to a county judge in a county that has a population of more than 800,000 and is located on the international border, other than a county to which Section 81.0291 applies.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 81, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 81.0291 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.0291. DELEGATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITY OF COUNTY JUDGE OR COMMISSIONERS COURT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a county that:

(1) has a population of more than 800,000;

(2) is located on the international border; and

(3) borders another state.

(b) A county judge may file an order with the commissioners court of a county delegating to a county commissioner of the commissioners court, a chief administrator, or another county officer or employee the ability to sign orders or other official documents associated with the county judge's office. The delegating order must clearly indicate the types of orders or

1 official documents that the county commissioner, chief
2 administrator, officer, or employee may sign on behalf of the
3 county judge.

4 (c) A county judge may file a standing order of emergency
5 delegation of authority that clearly indicates the types of orders
6 or official documents that the county commissioner, chief
7 administrator, officer, or employee may sign on behalf of the
8 county judge in the event of an emergency or disaster.

9 (d) An order or official document signed by the county
10 commissioner, chief administrator, officer, or employee under the
11 delegated authority of the county judge under this section has the
12 same effect as an order of the county judge.

13 (e) The county judge may at any time revoke the delegated
14 authority or transfer the authority to a different county
15 commissioner, chief administrator, officer, or employee by filing
16 an order with the commissioners court.

17 (f) The commissioners court by order may delegate
18 managerial authority of the commissioners court to a county chief
19 administrator. The delegating order must clearly indicate the
20 specific managerial authority delegated to the administrator. By
21 subsequent order, the commissioners court may revoke or modify the
22 managerial authority delegated to the administrator.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 784 was passed by the House on April 14, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 109, Nays 34, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 784 on May 25, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 119, Nays 20, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 784 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 27, Nays 4.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor