

By: Blanco

S.B. No. 542

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 81.029. DELEGATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITY [~~DUTIES~~] OF ~~[A]~~ COUNTY JUDGE OR COMMISSIONERS COURT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (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.

(b) A county judge may file an order with the commissioners court of the 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 official documents that the county commissioner, chief administrator, officer, or employee may sign on behalf of the county judge.

(c) A county judge may file a standing order of emergency delegation of authority that clearly indicates the types of orders or official documents that the county commissioner, chief administrator, officer, or employee may sign on behalf of the

1 county judge in the event of an emergency or disaster.

2 (d) An order or official document signed by the county
3 commissioner, chief administrator, officer, or employee under the
4 delegated authority of the county judge under this section has the
5 same effect as an order of the county judge.

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

10 (f) The commissioners court by order may delegate
11 managerial authority of the commissioners court to a county chief
12 administrator. The delegating order must clearly indicate the
13 specific managerial authority delegated to the administrator. By
14 subsequent order, the commissioners court may revoke or modify the
15 managerial authority delegated to the administrator.

16 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.