BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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S.B. 16
By: Hughes
State Affairs
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AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

This is the refile of the Judicial Court Omnibus Bill from the 89th Legislative Session. The bill is a compilation of several bills including legislation that either creates new courts, updates aspects of judicial administration, or fulfills a local request.

As proposed, SB 16 amends current law relating to the operation and administration of and practices and procedures related to proceedings in the judicial branch of state government.

As proposed, S.B. 16 amends current law relating to the operation and administration of and practices and procedures related to proceedings in the judicial branch of state government, including court security, court documents and arrest warrants, document delivery, juvenile boards, constitutional amendment election challenges, record retention, youth diversion, court-ordered mental health services, the powers of the Texas Supreme Court, and jurors; increases a criminal penalty; and authorizes fees.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the Supreme Court of Texas is modified in SECTION 2.01 (Section 22.04, Government Code) of this bill.

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is modified in SECTION 7.04 (Section 22.110, Government Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

ARTICLE 1. DISTRICT COURTS, DISTRICT CLERKS, AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

SECTION 1.01. Amends the heading to Section 24.127, Government Code, effective January 1, 2027, to read as follows:

> Sec. 24.127. 522ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT GONZALES AND GUADALUPE COUNTIES.

SECTION 1.02. Amends Section 24.127(a), Government Code, effective January 1, 2027, as follows:

> (a) Provides that the 522nd Judicial District is composed of Gonzales and Guadalupe counties. Deletes existing text providing that the Second 25th Judicial District is composed of Colorado, Gonzales, Guadalupe, and Lavaca counties.

SECTION 1.03. Amends Section 24.360, Government Code, as follows:

> Sec. 24.360. 173RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HENDERSON COUNTY). (a) Creates this subsection from existing text and makes no further changes.
>
> (b) Requires the 173rd District Court to give preference to civil and family law matters.

SECTION 1.04. Amends the heading to Section 24.451, Government Code, effective January 1, 2026, to read as follows:

Sec. 24.451. 274TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (COMAL AND HAYS COUNTIES).

SECTION 1.05. Amends Sections 24.451(a) and (c), Government Code, effective January 1, 2026, as follows:

(a) Provides that the 274th Judicial District is composed of Comal and Hays counties, rather than Comal, Guadalupe, and Hays counties.

(c) Deletes existing text providing that the 274th District Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the 25th and Second 25th district courts in Guadalupe County.

SECTION 1.06. Amends Section 24.537, Government Code, by adding Subsection (c) to require the 392nd District Court to give preference to criminal cases.

SECTION 1.07. Amends Section 24.951(c), Government Code, as follows:

(c) Provides that the district clerk serves as clerk of a district court in all criminal and civil matters, including family matters, except the county clerk serves as clerk of a district court in Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases, juvenile matters, probate matters, and guardianship matters. Requires each clerk to establish a separate docket for a district court. Deletes existing text requiring that all civil and criminal matters within the concurrent jurisdiction of the county and district courts be filed with the county clerk in the county court. Deletes existing text providing that the county clerk serves as the clerk of the district court for those matters.

SECTION 1.08. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, effective September 1, 2026, by adding Section 24.60035, as follows:

Sec. 24.60035. 490TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (BRAZORIA COUNTY). Provides that the 490th Judicial District is composed of Brazoria County.

(b) Provides that the 490th Judicial District is created on September 1, 2026.

SECTION 1.09. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, effective September 1, 2026, by adding Section 24.60037, as follows:

Sec. 24.60037. 492ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT (COLORADO AND LAVACA COUNTIES). Provides that the 492nd Judicial District is composed of Colorado and Lavaca counties.

(b) Provides that the 492nd Judicial District is created on September 1, 2026.

SECTION 1.10. Amends Section 24.60043(d), Government Code, effective January 1, 2026, as follows:

(d) Provides that the district clerk serves as the clerk of a district court in all criminal and civil matters, including family matters, except the county clerk serves as the clerk of a district court in Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases, juvenile matters, probate matters, and guardianship matters. Requires each clerk to establish a separate docket for a district court. Deletes existing text requiring that that all civil and criminal matters within the concurrent jurisdiction of the county and district courts be filed with the county clerk in the county court. Deletes existing text providing that the county clerk serves as the clerk of the district court for those matters.

SECTION 1.11. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, by adding Sections 24.60046 and 24.60047, as follows:

Sec. 24.60046. 501ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT (FORT BEND COUNTY). Provides that the 501st Judicial District is composed of Fort Bend County.

Sec. 24.60047. 502ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT (FORT BEND COUNTY). Provides that the 502nd Judicial District is composed of Fort Bend County.

(b) Provides that the 501st and 502nd Judicial Districts are created on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 1.12. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, by adding Section 24.60048, as follows:

Sec. 24.60048. 503RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT (ROCKWALL COUNTY). Provides that the 503rd Judicial District is composed of Rockwall County.

(b) Provides that the 503rd Judicial District is created on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 1.13. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, by adding Section 24.60049, as follows:

Sec. 24.60049. 504TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (ELLIS COUNTY). Provides that the 504th Judicial District is composed of Ellis County.

(b) Provides that the 504th Judicial District is created on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 1.14. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, effective September 1, 2026, by adding Section 24.60053, as follows:

Sec. 24.60053. 511TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (COMAL COUNTY). Provides that the 511th Judicial District is composed of Comal County.

(b) Provides that the 511th Judicial District is created on September 1, 2026.

SECTION 1.15. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, by adding Section 24.60054, as follows:

Sec. 24.60054. 512th JUDICIAL DISTRICT. (WILLIAMSON COUNTY). Provides that the 512th Judicial District is composed of Williamson County.

(b) Provides that the 512th Judicial District is created on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 1.16. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, effective January 1, 2026, by adding Sections 24.60055, 24.60056, and 24.60057, as follows:

Sec. 24.60055. 513TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HARRIS COUNTY). (a) Provides that the 513th Judicial District is composed of Harris County.

(b) Requires the 513th District Court to give preference to civil cases.

Sec. 24.60056. 514TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HARRIS COUNTY). (a) Provides that the 514th Judicial District is composed of Harris County.

(b) Requires the 514th District Court to give preference to civil cases.

Sec. 24.60057. 515TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HARRIS COUNTY). (a) Provides that the 515th Judicial District is composed of Harris County.

(b) Requires the 515th District Court to give preference to civil cases.

(b) Provides that the 513th, 514th, and 515th District Courts are created on January 1, 2026.

SECTION 1.17. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, effective October 1, 2026, by adding Sections 24.60058 and 24.60059, as follows:

Sec. 24.60058. 516TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HARRIS COUNTY). (a) Provides that the 516th Judicial District is composed of Harris County.

(b) Requires the 516th Judicial Court to give preference to civil cases.

Sec. 24.60059. 517TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (HARRIS COUNTY). (a) Provides that the 517th Judicial District is composed of Harris County.

(b) Requires the 517th Judicial Court to give preference to civil cases.

(b) Provides that the 516th and 517th Judicial Courts are created on October 1, 2026.

SECTION 1.18. Amends Section 24.911, Government Code, by adding Subsection (a-2) to require Tarrant County Criminal District Court No. 2 to give preference to criminal cases.

SECTION 1.19. Amends Section 24.913, Government Code, by adding Subsection (e) to require Tarrant County Criminal District Court No. 4 to give preference to criminal cases.

SECTION 1.20. Amends Section 43.101, Government Code, effective September 1, 2028, as follows:

Sec. 43.101. 1ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT. Provides that the voters of San Augustine County, rather than Sabine and San Augustine counties, elect a district attorney for the 1st Judicial District who represents the state in the district courts in that county, rather than in that district court only in those counties.

SECTION 1.21. (a) Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 43, Government Code, effective January 1, 2029, by adding Section 43.1742, as follows:

Sec. 43.1742. 273RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT. Provides that the voters of Sabine County elect a district attorney for the 273rd Judicial District who represents the state in the district courts in that county.

(b) Provides that the office of district attorney for the 273rd Judicial District is created on September 1, 2028.

SECTION 1.22. Amends Section 43.177, Government Code, effective January 1, 2029, as follows:

Sec. 43.177. 293RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT. (a) Provides that the voters of Maverick County, rather than the voters of the 293rd Judicial District, elect a district attorney who represents the state in all cases before the district court, rather than that district court.

(b) Authorizes the commissioners court of Maverick County to supplement the state salary of the district attorney and set the amount of supplemental compensation paid by that county. Deletes existing text authorizing the commissioners court of one or more of the counties comprising the 293rd Judicial District to supplement the state salary of the district attorney. Deletes existing text authorizing the commissioners court of each county to set the amount of supplemental compensation paid by that county.

(c) Provides that the district attorney of the 293rd Judicial District also represents the state in all criminal and civil matters that arise in the 365th Judicial District in Maverick County.

SECTION 1.23. (a) Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 43, Government Code, effective January 1, 2029, by adding Section 43.1812, as follows:

> Sec. 43.1812. 365TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT. Provides that the voters of Dimmit and Zavala counties elect a district attorney for the 365th Judicial District who represents the state in all civil and criminal matters in the district courts having jurisdiction in those counties.

(b) Provides that the office of district attorney for the 365th Judicial District is created on January 1, 2029.

(c) Provides that the office of district attorney for the 365th Judicial District exists for purposes of the primary and general elections in 2028.

SECTION 1.24. Amends Section 46.002, Government Code, effective January 1, 2029, as follows:

> Sec. 46.002. PROSECUTORS SUBJECT TO CHAPTER. Provides that Chapter 46 applies to the sate prosecuting attorney, all county prosecutors, and certain state prosecutors, including the district attorneys for the 273rd judicial district and the county attorneys performing the duties of district attorneys in the County of Fayette.

SECTION 1.25. Repealers, effective January 1, 2026: Sections 24.126(b) (relating to providing that the 25th District Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Second 25th District Court) and (d) (relating to authorizing the judges of the 25th and Second 25th judicial districts to hear and dispose of any suit or proceeding on either court's docket without transferring the suit or proceeding), Government Code.

Repealers, effective January 1, 2026: Sections 24.127(b) (relating to providing that the terms of the second 25th District Court begin in certain counties on certain dates) and (c) (relating to providing that Section 24.126, relating to the 25th District Court, contains provisions applicable to both that court and the Second 25th District Court), Government Code.

Repealer, effective January 1, 2026: Section 24.451(b) (relating to providing that the terms of the 274th District Court begin on certain dates), Government Code.

ARTICLE 2. STATUTORY COUNTY COURTS

SECTION 2.01. Amends Sections 22.004(b) and (h-1), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Requires the clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas (supreme court) to file with the secretary of state (SOS) the rules or amendments to rules promulgated by the supreme court under this subsection and provide, rather than mail, a copy of those rules or amendments to rules to each registered member of the State Bar of Texas (state bar) not later than the 60th day before the date on which they become effective.

(h-1) Requires the supreme court, in addition to the rules adopted under Subsection (h) (relating to requiring the supreme court to adopt rules to promote the prompt, efficient, and cost-effective resolution of civil actions), to adopt rules to promote the prompt, efficient, and cost-effective resolution of civil actions filed in county courts at law in which the amount in controversy does not exceed $325,000, rather than $250,000.

SECTION 2.02. Amends Section 25.0003(c), Government Code, as follows:

(c) Provides that, in addition to other jurisdiction provided by law, a statutory county court exercising civil jurisdiction concurrent with the constitutional jurisdiction of the county court has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in certain circumstances, including civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds $500 but does not exceed

$325,000, rather than $250,000, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney's fees and costs, as alleged on the face of the petition.

SECTION 2.03. Amends Section 25.0007(c), Government Code, to require the jury, in a civil case pending in a statutory county court in which the matter in controversy exceeds $325,000, rather than $250,000, to be composed of 12 members unless all of the parties agree to a jury composed of a lesser number of jurors.

SECTION 2.04. Amends Section 25.00212, Government Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1), as follows:

(a) Requires the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas (comptroller), at the end of each state fiscal year, to determine:

(1) the amounts deposited in the judicial fund under Section 133.151(c)(1) (relating to prohibiting the judicial fund from receiving less than 59.854 percent of the amount of fees collected for the filing of certain cases for court-related purposes for the support of the judiciary), Local Government Code, from, rather than by, statutory probate courts fees remitted under Section 133.151(a)(1) (relating to requiring the clerk of certain courts to collect a fee in the amount of $137 on the filing of any civil, probate, guardianship, or mental health case), Local Government Code, either:

(A) directly to the treasury by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (OCA) for fees paid using the electronic filing system established under Section 72.031 (Electronic Filing System); or

(B) to the comptroller in the manner provided by Subchapter B (Reporting, Collection, and Remittance of Fees), Chapter 133 (Criminal and Civil Fees Payable to the Comptroller), Local Government Code, for fees paid to an officer of a court; and

(2) creates this subdivision from existing text and makes no further changes.

(a-1) Creates this subsection from existing text. Requires the comptroller, rather than the state, if the comptroller determines the total amount deposited in the judicial fund by statutory probate courts in all counties as calculated under Subsection (a)(1) exceeds the sum calculated under Subsection (a)(2) (relating to requiring the comptroller, at the end of each state fiscal year, to determine certain amounts paid) to remit the excess proportionately to each county that contributed a greater amount to, rather than deposited a greater amount in, the judicial fund from fees collected by a statutory probate court than the amount the county was paid under Section 25.00211 (State Contribution), as adjusted in an equitable manner to reflect the differences in the total amounts paid to the counties under Section 25.00211. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 2.05. Amends Section 25.0022(f), Government Code, as follows:

(f) Provides that each county pays annually to the presiding judge, from allocated to the judicial education and support fund under Section 135.102 (Local Civil Fee for Probate, Guardianship, and Mental Health Cases in Statutory County Court, Statutory Probate Court, or County Court), Local Government Code, the amount of the salary apportioned as provided by Section 25.0022 (Administration of Statutory Probate Courts) and the other expenses authorized by this section. Deletes existing text providing that each county pays annually to the presiding judge, from fees collected pursuant to Section 118.052(2)(A)(vi) (relating to requiring each clerk of a county court to collect a fee of $10.00 for filing annual or final report of guardian of a person in probate court actions), Local Government Code, the amount of the salary apportioned to it as provided by this section and the other expenses authorized by this section.

SECTION 2.06. Amends Section 25.0062(b), Government Code, to provide that the district clerk serves as clerk of a county court at law in felony cases, in family law cases and proceedings, and in civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds $325,000, rather than $250,000.

SECTION 2.07. (a) Amends Section 25.0092, Government Code, by amending Subsections (a) and (d) and adding Subsection (c-1), as follows:

(a) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 (Jurisdiction) and other law, and except as limited by Subsection (b) (relating to providing that a county court at law does not have jurisdiction of certain issues), a county court at law in Atascosa County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in certain matters, including civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds the maximum amount provided by Section 25.0003 but does not exceed $1 million, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney's fees and costs, as alleged on the face of the petition, including certain suits. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

(c-1) Provides that, in addition to other assignments provided by law, a judge of the county court at law in Atascosa County is subject to assignment under Chapter 74 (Court Administration Act) to any district court in Atascosa County. Authorizes a county court at law judge assigned to a district court to hear any matter pending in the district court.

(d) Requires the judge of a county court at law to be paid as provided by Section 25.0005 (Judge's Salary). Deletes existing text requiring the judge of a county court at law to be paid a total annual salary set by the commissioners court at an amount that is not less than $1,000 less than the total annual salary received by a district judge in the county. Deletes existing text providing that a district judge's or statutory county court judge's total annual salary does not include contributions and supplements paid by a county.

(b) Makes application of Section 25.0092(a), Government Code, as amended by this section, prospective.

SECTION 2.08. Amends Section 25.0212, Government Code, by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (f) and adding Subsections (i) and (j), as follows:

(a) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law and except as limited by Subsection (b), a county court at law in Bowie County has, concurrent with the district court, the jurisdiction provided by the constitution and by general law for district courts, including concurrent jurisdiction in specialty court programs, misdemeanor cases, family law cases and proceedings, including juvenile matters, and probate and guardianship matters.

(b) Provides that a county court at law does not have jurisdiction of certain matters, including civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds the amount provided by Section 25.003, rather than $200,000, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney's fees and costs, as alleged on the face of the petition.

(f) Provides that the official court reporter of a county court at law is entitled to compensation, fees, and allowances in amounts equal to the amounts paid to the official court reporters serving the district courts in Bowie County, including an annual salary set by the judge of the county court at law and approved by the commissioners court. Deletes existing text authorizing the commissioners court to authorize the judge of a county court at law to set the official court reporter's salary.

(i) Provides that the jury in all civil or criminal matters is composed of 12 members, except in misdemeanor criminal cases and any other case in which the court has concurrent jurisdiction with county courts under Section 25.0003(a) (relating to providing

that a statutory court has jurisdiction over all causes and proceedings prescribed by law for county courts), the jury is composed of six members.

(j) Authorizes a judge of a county court at law and a judge of a district court with jurisdiction in Bowie County, in matters of concurrent jurisdiction, to transfer cases between the courts in the same manner that judges of district courts are authorized to transfer cases under Section 24.003 (Transfer of Cases; Exchange of Benches).

SECTION 2.09. (a) Amends Section 25.1031(a), Government Code, to provide that Harris County has certain county civil courts at law, including County Civil Court at Law No. 5 of Harris County, Texas, and to make nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Provides that the County Civil Court at Law No. 5 of Harris County is created on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 2.10. (a) Amends Section 25.1101(b), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Provides that Hidalgo County has the following statutory probate courts:

(1) Probate Court No. 1 of Hidalgo County; and

(2) Probate Court No.2 of Hidalgo County.

Deletes existing text providing that Hidalgo County has one statutory probate court, the Probate Court of Hidalgo County.

(b) Provides that, on the effective date of this section, Probate Court No. 2 of Hidalgo County is created and the Probate Court of Hidalgo County is redesignated as Probate Court No. 1 of Hidalgo County.

(c) Effective date, this section: September 1, 2025, or on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

SECTION 2.11. (a) Amends Section 25.1102(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 (Jurisdiction) and other law, a county court at law in Hidalgo County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in family law cases and proceedings and civil cases, rather than civil cases in which the matter in controversy does not exceed a certain amount.

(b) Makes application of Section 24.1102(a), Government Code, as amended by this section, prospective.

(c) Effective date, this section: September 1, 2025, or on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

SECTION 2.12. Amends Section 25.1902(b-1), Government Code, as follows:

(b-1) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Subsections (a) (relating to providing that a county court in Potter County has concurrent jurisdiction with the justice courts in civil matters) and (b) (relating to providing that a county court in Potter County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in family law cases and proceedings), the county courts at law in Potter county have, rather than County Court at Law No. 1 of Potter County has, concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in felony cases to conduct arraignments, conduct pretrial hearings, and accept pleas in uncontested matters.

SECTION 2.13. Amends Section 25.2282, Government Code, by adding Subsection (b) to provide that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, a county

court at law in Tom Green County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in family law cases and proceedings.

SECTION 2.14. Amends Section 25.2452(b), (c), (d), and (e), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Requires that all misdemeanor cases, probate and mental health matters, proceedings under the Estates Code, and appeals from municipal courts of record be filed in the county court at law.

(c) Provides that, except as provided by Section 25.0003 and Subsection (d), a county court at law has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in:

(1) makes a nonsubstantive change to this subdivision;

(2) civil cases in which the amount in controversy exceeds $500 but does not exceed $200,000, excluding interest, exemplary damages, penalties, attorney's fees, and court costs; and

(3) appeals from the justice courts.

(d) Deletes existing text providing that a county court at law does not have jurisdiction of a civil case, other than a case under the Family Code or the Estates Code, in which the amount in controversy is less than the maximum amount in controversy allowed the justice court in Wichita County or more than $200,000, exclusive of punitive or exemplary damages, penalties, interest, costs, and attorney's fees. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(e) Authorizes a county court at law, on the motion of any party, to transfer a civil case originally filed in a county court at law that exceeds the maximum amount in controversy described by Subsection (c)(2), rather than Subsection (d)(3)(B) (relating to providing that a county court at law does not have jurisdiction of a civil cases in which the amount in controversy is more than $200,000, exclusive of punitive or exemplary damages, penalties, interest, costs, and attorney's fees), to the district court in Wichita County, except that an announcement of ready for trial by all parties before a motion to transfer the case to the district court is filed confers original jurisdiction on the county court at law.

SECTION 2.15. Amends Section 25.2704(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, the 2nd Multicounty Court at Law has concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts, including, rather than except, in civil cases in which the matter in controversy exceeds the maximum amount provided by Section 25.0003(c)(1) (relating to providing that a statutory county court exercising civil jurisdiction concurrent with the constitutional jurisdiction has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in certain civil cases).

SECTION 2.16. (a) Repealers: Sections 25.0212(d) (relating to requiring the judge of a county court at law to be paid an annual salary of a certain amount) and 25.1723(c) (relating to providing that a statutory probate court of Montgomery County has eminent domain jurisdiction), Government Code.

(b) Makes application of Section 25.1723(c), Government Code, as repealed by this section, prospective.

SECTION 2.17. Makes application of Sections 25.0003(c), 25.0007(c), and 25.0062(b), Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 2.18. Provides that Section 25.00212, Government Code, as amended by this article, applies to amounts deposited in the judicial fund under Section 133.151(c)(1), Local Government

Code, from fees collected by a statutory probate court before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 2.19. Makes application of Section 25.2282, Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 2.20. Makes application of Section 25.2452, Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 2.21. Makes application of Section 25.2704(a), Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

ARTICLE 3. MUNICIPAL COURT PROVISIONS

SECTION 3.01. Amends Section 29.014, Government Code, by amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding Subsection (e), as follows:

(c) Requires the court security committee to establish the policies and procedures necessary to provide adequate security to the municipal courts served by the presiding or municipal judge, as applicable, including by developing a court emergency plan.

(d) Provides that the court security committee is required, rather than authorized, to recommend to the municipality the uses of resources and expenditures of money for courthouse security, but is prohibited from directing the assignment of those resources or the expenditures of those funds.

(e) Provides that, notwithstanding Section 551.001 (Definitions) or 552.003 (Definitions), a court security committee established under Section 29.014 (Court Security Committee) is not a governmental body for the purposes of Chapter 551 (Open Meetings) or 552 (Public Information).

SECTION 3.02. Amends Section 30.00007, Government Code, by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (d), as follows:

(b) Requires the presiding judge to take certain actions, including establishing a court security committee to adopt security policies and procedures for the courts served by the presiding judge, including by developing a court emergency management plan, that is composed of certain persons.

(c) Provides that a court security committee is required, rather than authorized, to recommend to the governing body the uses of resources and expenditures of money for courthouse security, but is prohibited from directing the assignment of those resources or the expenditure of those funds.

(d) Provides that, notwithstanding Section 551.001 or 552.003, a court security committee established under Section 30.0007 (Presiding Judge) is not a governmental body for the purposes of Chapter 551 or 552.

SECTION 3.03. Amends Section 30.0104(d), Government Code, to delete existing text requiring a municipal judge, in addition to satisfying the requirements of Section 30.00006(c) (relating to requiring a municipal judge to meet certain requirements), to maintain residence in the city during the tenure of office and be a resident of the city at the time of appointment or election.

SECTION 3.04. Amends Chapter 30, Government Code, by adding Subchapter AAA, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER AAA. CANYON

Sec. 30.01911. APPLICABILITY. Provides that this subchapter applies to the city of Canyon.

Sec. 30.01912. JUDGE. Provides that a municipal judge for the city of Canyon is not required to be a resident of the city.

SECTION 3.05. Requires a court security committee, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, to develop a court emergency management plan as required by Section 29.014 or 30.00007, Government Code, as amended by this article.

ARTICLE 4. VISITING JUDGES

SECTION 4.01. Amends Sections 25.0022(d), (h), (k), (o), (t), (u), and (w), Government Code, as follows:

(d) Requires the presiding judge of a statutory probate court to take certain actions, including assigning or ordering the clerk who serves the statutory probate courts to randomly assign a judge or former or retired judge of a statutory probate court or a former or retired justice of an appellate court to hear a case under Section 25.002201(a) (relating to requiring the presiding judge to assign a statutory probate court judge or a former or retired judge to hear a case in certain circumstances) or 25.00255 (Recusal or Disqualification of Judge), as applicable.

(h) Authorizes a judge or a former or retired judge of a statutory probate court or a former or retired justice of an appellate court, subject to Section 25.002201 (Assignment of Judge on Recusal or Disqualification), to be assigned by the presiding judge of the statutory probate courts to hold court in a statutory probate court, a county court, or any statutory court exercising probate jurisdiction when certain conditions are met.

(k) Makes a conforming change to this subsection.

(o) Makes a conforming change to this subsection.

(t) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

(u) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

(w) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

SECTION 4.02. Amends Section 25.002201, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 25.002201. ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGE ON RECUSAL OR DISQUALIFICATION. (a) Requires the presiding judge, except as provided by Subsection (b) (relating to requiring the chief justice of the supreme court to assign a statutory probate judge or a former or retired judge of a statutory probate court to hear the case), not later than the 15th day after the date an order of recusal or disqualification of a statutory probate court judge is issued in a case, to assign a statutory probate court judge or a former or retired judge of a statutory probate court or a former or retired justice of an appellate court to hear the case in certain circumstances.

(b) Makes conforming and nonsubstantive changes to this subsection.

SECTION 4.03. Amends Section 25.00255, Government Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (b) and (c), as follows:

(a) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

(b) Authorizes the presiding judge to deny a motion of recusal or disqualification that does not comply with Rule 18a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, without a hearing. Requires that an order denying a motion under this subsection state the manner in which the motion fails to comply with that rule.

(c) Provides that a motion of recusal or disqualification that does not comply with Rule 18a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, is a motion or disqualification for the purpose of determining whether a tertiary recusal motion has been filed under Section 25.00256, regardless of whether the motion was amended after filing.

SECTION 4.04. Amends Section 74.003(e), Government Code, as follows:

(e) Provides that, for purposes of determining the amount to be paid to a former or retired justice or judge under this subsection, the compensation received from the state by a justice of the court of appeals to which the retired justice or judge is assigned is the amount equal to the state salary paid in accordance with Section 659.012(b) (relating to entitling a judge or justice to an annual salary from the state in the amount equal to certain amounts of the state base salary), rather than the state base salary paid, to a justice of that court of appeals with comparable years of service as the retired justice or judge on the retired justice's or judge's last day of service in judicial office, rather than as set by the General Appropriations Act, in accordance with Section 659.012(a) (relating to establishing judicial salaries).

SECTION 4.05. Amends Section 74.046(b), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Provides that a former or retired judge or justice assigned as a judicial mentor under this subsection is entitled to the same salary, compensation, and expenses under Section 74.061 that the judge or justice would be entitled to if the judge or justice had been assigned under this chapter to serve as the judge of a trial court in the administrative judicial region of the court to which the judge or justice is assigned as a judicial mentor.

SECTION 4.06. Amends Section 74.059, Government Code, by adding Subsection (a-1), as follows:

(a-1) Authorizes a judge assigned under the provisions of Chapter 74 (Court Administration Act) to a court that sits in a county located in the Texas-Mexico border region, as defined by Section 2056.002(e) (relating to defining "Texas-Mexico border region"), to conduct a proceeding, other than a trial, or perform a judicial action from any location in this state using videoconference, teleconference, or other available electronic means if authorized by the order of assignment.

SECTION 4.07. Amends Section 74.061, Government Code, by amending Subsections (h), (i), and (k) and adding Subsection (k-1), as follows:

(h)-(i) Makes conforming changes to these subsections.

(k) Creates an exception under Subsection (k-1).

(k-1) Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision, a former or retired judge or justice assigned under this chapter to a constitutional county court in a county located in the Texas-Mexico border region, as defined by Section 2056.002(e), is entitled to compensation from the state in an amount equal to the maximum salary a district judge is authorized to receive from county and state sources under Section 659.012(a) if the presiding judge of the administrative judicial region in which the county lies certifies that exigent circumstances require the assignment.

SECTION 4.08. Effective date, this article: upon passage or on the effective date of this Act.

ARTICLE 5. MASTERS, MAGISTRATES, REFEREES, AND ASSOCIATE JUDGES

SECTION 5.01. Reenacts Article 2A.151, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by S.B. 251, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, and by H.B. 1620, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, as effective September 1, 2025, and amends it, as follows:

Art. 2A.151. TYPES OF MAGISTRATES. Provides that certain officers are magistrates for purposes of the Code of Criminal Procedure, including an associate judge appointed by a judge of a district court under Subchapter B, Chapter 54B (Associate Judges in Certain Counties), Government Code; a criminal magistrate appointed by the Bell County Commissioners Court; and a magistrate appointed by a judge of a district court or statutory court of Denton or Grayson County. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 5.02. Amends Section 54.1601(b), Government Code, as added by S.B. 251, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, as follows;

(b) Requires a person, notwithstanding any other provision of Chapter 54 (Masters; Magistrates; Referees; Associate Judges), to be eligible for appointment under Subchapter EE (Bell County Criminal Magistrates), to have been licensed to practice law in this state and in good standing with the state bar for at least two years. Deletes existing text requiring that the qualifications established by the commissioners court require the magistrate to have served as a justice of the peace or municipal court judge.

SECTION 5.03. Amends Chapter 54B, Government Code, by adding Subchapter B, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. CRIMINAL ASSOCIATE JUDGES IN COKE, CONCHO, IRION, RUNNELS, SCHLEICHER, STERLING, AND TOM GREEN COUNTIES

Sec. 54B.031. APPOINTMENT. (a) Authorizes a judge of the 51st, 119th, 340th, or 391st district court to appoint a full-time or part-time criminal associate judge to perform the duties authorized by this subchapter if the commissioners court of the county in which the court has jurisdiction has authorized the creation of an associate judge position.

(b) Provides that, if a court has jurisdiction in more than one county, an associate judge appointed by that court is authorized to serve only in a county in which the commissioners court has authorized the appointment.

(c) Authorizes the commissioners court, if more than one court in a county is subject to this subchapter, to authorize the appointment of an associate judge for each court or authorize one or more associate judges to share service with two or more courts.

(d) Requires an associate judge's appointment, if the associate judge serves more than one court, to be made as established by local rule, but in no event by less than a vote of two-thirds of the judges under whom the associate judge serves.

Sec. 54B.032. APPLICABILITY. Provides that, except as provided by Section 54B.033, Subchapter A (Criminal Associate Judges), Chapter 54A (Associate Judges), applies to a criminal associate judge appointed under this subchapter.

Sec. 54B.033. PROCEEDINGS THAT MAY BE REFERRED. (a) Authorizes a judge to refer to a criminal associate judge any criminal case or matter relating to a criminal case for proceedings involving certain matters.

(b) Authorizes a judge to refer to a criminal associate judge a civil case arising out of Chapter 59 (Forfeiture of Contraband), Code of Criminal Procedure, for any purpose authorized by that chapter, including issuing orders, accepting agreed judgments, enforcing judgments, and presiding over a case on the merits if a party has not requested a jury trial.

(c) Authorizes a criminal associate judge to accept a plea of guilty from a defendant charged with misdemeanor, felony, or both misdemeanor and felony offenses.

(d) Authorizes a criminal associate judge to select a jury. Prohibits a criminal associate judge from presiding over a criminal trial on the merits, whether or not the trial is before a jury.

(e) Prohibits a criminal associate judge from hearing a jury trial on the merits of a bond forfeiture.

(f) Authorizes a judge of a designated juvenile court to refer to a criminal associate judge any proceeding over which a juvenile court has exclusive original jurisdiction under Title 3 (Juvenile Justice Code), Family Code, including any matter ancillary to the proceeding.

ARTICLE 6. JUVENILE BOARDS

SECTION 6.01. Amends Section 152.0191(a), Human Resources Code, to provide that the juvenile board of Bee County is composed of the county judge, the district judges in Bee County, and the judge of the 2nd Multicounty Court at law, and to make a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 6.02. Amends Section 152.0521(a), Human Resources Code, as follows:

(a) Provides that the Comal County Juvenile Board is composed of the county judge, the local administrative statutory county court judge, an elected judicial officer of Comal County appointed by the local administrative statutory county court judge, the local administrative district judge, two elected judicial officers of Comal County appointed by the local administrative district judge, and the criminal district attorney of Comal County.

Deletes existing text providing that the Comal County Juvenile Board is composed of the county judge, the judge of each county court at law in the county, the judge of the 22nd District Court, the judge of the 270th District Court, the judge of the 433rd District Court, the judge of the 274th District Court, and the criminal district attorney of Comal County. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 6.03. Amends Section 152.0971(a), Human Resources Code, to authorize the county judge of Grayson County to add a judge of a county court at law to the juvenile board of Grayson County.

SECTION 6.04. Amends Section 152.1551(a), Human Resources Code, to provide that the juvenile board of Live Oak County is composed of the county judge, the district judges in Live Oak County, and the judge of the 2nd Multicounty Court at Law, and to make a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 6.05. Amends Section 152.1621(a), Human Resources Code, to provide that the juvenile board of McMullen County is composed of the county judge, the district judges in McMullen County, and the judge of the 2nd Multicounty Court at Law, and to make a nonsubstantive change.

ARTICLE 7. COURT ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 7.01. Amends Articles 45A.302(b), (c), and (d), Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

(b) Authorizes the judge, in issuing the order of deferral, to impose a special expense fee, rather than a fine, on the defendant in an amount not to exceed the amount of the fine that could be imposed on the defendant as punishment for the offense.

(c)-(d) Makes conforming changes to these subsections.

SECTION 7.02. Amends Subchapter A, Chapter 102, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Article 102.0061, as follows:

Art. 102.0061. FEES IN EXPUNCTION PROCEEDINGS. (a) Requires a petitioner seeking expunction of a criminal record in a district court, in addition to any other fees required by other law and except as provided by Subsections (c) and (d), to pay the fee charged for filing an ex parte petition in a civil action in district court.

(b) Requires a petitioner seeking expunction of a criminal record in a justice court or a municipal court of record under Chapter 55A, in addition to any other fees required by other law and except as provided by Subsection (c), to pay a fee of $100 for filing an ex parte petition for expunction to defray the cost of notifying state agencies of orders of expunction under that chapter.

(c) Requires that the fee under Subsection (a) or the fee under Subsection (b), as applicable, be waived in certain circumstances.

(d) Requires that the fee under Subsection (a) be waived if the petitioner is entitled to expunction under Article 55A.053(a)(2)(A) (relating to entitling a person to have all records and files relating to their arrest expunged if the court finds that the indictment or information was dismissed or quashed because the person completed a veterans treatment court program) after successful completion of a veterans treatment court program created under Chapter 124 (Veterans Treatment Court Program), Government Code, or former law, or under Article 55A.053(a)(2)(B) (relating to entitling a person to have all records and files relating to their arrest expunged if the court finds that the indictment or information was dismissed or quashed because the person completed a mental health court program) after successful completion of a mental health court program created under Chapter 125 (Mental Health Court Programs), Government Code, or former law.

(e) Authorizes a court that grants a petition for expunction of a criminal record to order the fee, or portion of the fee, required to be paid under Subsection (a) to be returned to the petitioner.

SECTION 7.03. Amends Article 102.017, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Subsection (e-1), as follows:

(e-1) Requires a commissioners court, in administering or directing funds under Subsection (e) (relating to requiring that the courthouse security fund and the justice court building security fund be administered by or under the direction of the commissioners court), to consider the recommendations provided by a court security committee under Section 74.0922, Government Code, and requires the governing body of a municipality to consider the recommendations provided by a court security committee under certain provisions of the Government Code.

SECTION 7.04. (a) Amends the heading to Section 22.110, Government Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 22.110. JUDICIAL INSTRUCTION RELATED TO FAMILY VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS, AND CHILD AND ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

(b) Amends Section 22.110, Government Code, by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (d) and adding Subsection (b-1), as follows:

(a) Requires the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals (court of criminal appeals) to assure that judicial training related to the problems of family violence, sexual assault, trafficking of persons, child abuse and neglect, and elder abuse and neglect is provided. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

(b) Requires that the rules adopted by the court of criminal appeals for the purposes of this section require each district judge, judge of a statutory county

court, associate judge appointed under Chapter 54A of this code or Chapter 201, Family Code, master, referee, and magistrate within the judge's first term of office or the judicial officer's first four years of service to complete and provide certification of completion of 12 hours of training that include at least four hours dedicated to issues related to trafficking of persons, child abuse and neglect, and elder abuse and neglect that cover at least two of the topics described in certain provisions of Subsection (d), including Subsection (d)(14) (relating to requiring that the instruction include information about elder abuse and neglect). Makes a nonsubstantive change.

(b-1) Requires that the rules adopted under Subsection (b) exempt from the training requirements of this section each judge or judicial officer, including an associate judge, who files an affidavit stating the judge or judicial officer does not hear cases involving family violence, sexual assault, trafficking of persons, or child abuse and neglect.

(d) Requires that the instruction include certain information, including information about elder abuse and neglect. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(c) Requires the court of criminal appeals, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, to adopt the rules necessary to implement Section 22.110, Government Code, as amended by this article.

(d) Provides that Section 22.110, Government Code, as amended by this article, applies to all judges, masters, referees, and magistrates elected, appointed, or holding office on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 7.05. Amends Section 22.216(n-2), Government Code, as follows:

(n-2) Requires that Permanent Place 4 be created and the initial vacancy in that place be filled for the fourth year following the Court of Appeals for the Fifteenth Court of Appeals District's creation. Requires that Permanent Place 5 be created and the initial vacancy in that place be filled for the fifth year following the court's creation. Provides that this subsection expires September 1, 2029, rather than September 1, 2027.

SECTION 7.06. Amends Section 25A.003(d), Government Code, as amended by H.B. 40, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(d) Provides that the Second Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Second Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(c) (relating to setting forth the composition of the Second Administrative Judicial Region), excluding Montgomery County and Bastrop County, subject to funding through legislative appropriations.

SECTION 7.07. Amends Section 25A.003(e), Government Code, to provide that the Third Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Third Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(d) (relating to setting forth the composition of the Third Administrative Judicial Region) and Bastrop County.

SECTION 7.08. Amends Section 51.303, Government Code, by amending Subsection (b) and (f) and adding Subsection (d), as follows:

(b) Requires the clerk of a district court to take certain actions, including accepting an application for a protective order filed under Chapter 82 (Applying for Protective Order), Family Code. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(d) Requires that paper records include a reference opposite each name to the minutes on which is entered the judgment in the case.

(f) Requires that a case with an electronic record be searchable by each party's full name, the case number, and the date on which the record was made. Deletes existing text requiring a district clerk, in addition to the other powers and duties of Section 51.303 (Duties and Powers), to accept applications for protective orders under Chapter 71 (Definitions), Family Code.

SECTION 7.09. Amends Section 51.903(d), Government Code, to prohibit the district clerk from collecting a filing fee under Section 12.005 (Filing Fees), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, for a filing, rather than for filing a motion, under Section 51.903 (Action on Fraudulent Lien on Property).

SECTION 7.10. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 71, Government Code, by adding Section 71.0354, as follows:

Sec. 71.0354. PROSECUTING ATTORNEY INFORMATION. (a) Defines "prosecuting attorney."

(b) Requires each prosecuting attorney to report in the form and manner prescribed by the Texas Judicial Council (council) certain information.

(c) Requires the council, in prescribing the information to be submitted and form and manner of submission of the information under Subsection (b), to consult with the Texas District and County Attorneys Association and other interested persons.

(b) Requires the council, not later than September 1, 2026, to prescribe the information, and form and manner of submission, a prosecuting attorney in this state is required to report under Section 71.0354, Government Code, as added by this article.

SECTION 7.11. Amends Section 72.015(c), Government Code, to require the judicial security division to take certain actions, including developing a model court emergency management plan as a resource for court security committees, and to make nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 7.12. Amends Section 72.016, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 72.016. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIAL PRIVACY. Requires the administrative director of the courts (director) to develop a procedure to regularly notify county registrars, the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas (DPS), the Texas Ethics Commission, and any other state or local government agency OCA determines should be notified of the judges, judges' spouses, employees of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA, employees and commissioners of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC), and related family members whose personal information is required to be kept from public records, as provided by certain provisions, including Section 25.025 (Confidentiality of Certain Home Address Information), Tax Code.

SECTION 7.13. Amends Section 72.083, Government Code, by adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(c) Authorizes the director, notwithstanding Subsection (b) (relating to requiring OCA to annually report certain performance measures), if the director determines a performance measure listed in Subsection (b) does not accurately reflect a court's performance in probate and mental health matters, to develop an alternative performance measure to assess the efficient and timely adjudication of those matters and include the alternative performance measure in the annual report required under Subsection (b).

SECTION 7.14. Amends Section 74.024(d), Government Code, as follows:

(d) Requires the clerk of the supreme court to file with SOS the rules or any amendments to the rules adopted by the supreme court under Section 74.024 (Rules) and to provide,

rather than mail, a copy of the rules and any amendments to each registered member of the state bar not later than the 120th day before the date on which they become effective. Requires the clerk of the supreme court to report the rules or amendments to the rules to the next regular session of the legislature by providing, rather than mailing, a copy of the rules or amendments to the rules to each elected member of the legislature on or before December 1 immediately preceding the session.

SECTION 7.15. Amends Section 74.091, Government Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1), as follows:

(b) Provides that, in a county with two or more district courts, the judges of those courts are required to elect a district judge as local administrative district judge for a term of two years, rather than not more than two years, or if the district judge's term ends before the second anniversary of the date the district judge is elected as local administrative judge, for the remainder of the district judge's term. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b-1) Creates this subsection from existing text and makes no further changes.

SECTION 7.16. Amends Section 74.092, Government Code, as amended by S.B. 664, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(a) Requires a local administrative judge, for the courts for which the judge serves as the local administrative judge, to:

(1)-(12) makes no changes to these subdivisions; and

(13) establish a court security committee to adopt security policies and procedures for the trial courts served by the local administrative judge, including by adopting a court emergency management plan, that is composed of certain persons, including a representative of the constable's office and one judge of each type of court in the county, including a justice of the peace and excluding the judge of a municipal court or a municipal court of record.

Makes nonsubstantive changes to this subsection.

(c) Provides that, notwithstanding Section 551.001 or 552.003, a court security committee established under Section 74.092 (Duties of Local Administrative Judge) is not a governmental body for the purposes of Chapter 551 or 552.

SECTION 7.17. Redesignates Section 74.092(b), Government Code, as Section 74.0922, Government Code, and amends it, as follows:

Sec. 74.0922. DUTIES OF COURT SECURITY COMMITTEE. Provides that a court security committee established under Section 74.092(a)(13) is required to meet at least once annually and develop and submit recommendations, rather than that a court security committee is authorized to recommend, to the county commissioners court on the uses of resources and expenditures of money for courthouse security, but is prohibited from directing the assignment of those resources or the expenditure of those funds. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 7.18. Amends Chapter 74, Government Code, by adding Subchapter D-1, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D-1. COURT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Sec. 74.0981. COURT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. Requires OCA to hold an annual leadership conference to provide information to presiding judges of administrative regions, local administrative judges, and court administrators related to certain matters related to court administration.

Sec. 74.0982. REIMBURSEMENT. Authorizes OCA to reimburse a presiding judge of an administrative region, a local administrative judge, or a court administrator for the expense of attending the leadership conference described by Section 74.0981 to the extent money is appropriated to OCA for that purpose.

SECTION 7.19. Amends Section 75.001(d), Government Code, to require a retiree who makes an election under Section 75.001 (Judicial Retiree Election to Be Judicial Officer) to be designated a senior judge and considered a judge of a court of this state for the purpose of appointment to a judicial branch board, commission, or council, and to make nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 7.20. Amends Section 121.002(c), Government Code, as follows:

(c) Prohibits a specialty court program, notwithstanding any other law, from operating until the judge, magistrate, or coordinator fulfills certain requirements, including providing to OCA certain documentation, including a copy of the program policy manual, participant handbook, or other adopted documentation describing the operational plan of the program, rather than a copy of the applicable strategic plan that incorporates duties related to supervision that will be required under the program.

SECTION 7.21. Amends Section 118.011(a), Local Government Code, as amended by S.B. 1547, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, to require a county clerk to collect certain fees for services rendered to any person, including $5, rather than $3, for bond approval.

SECTION 7.22. Amends Section 135.101(a), Local Government Code, to delete existing text requiring a person to pay in a district court, statutory county court, or county court in addition to all other fees and court costs a local consolidated fee of $35 on any action regarding certain requirements, including for an appeal, and to make a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 7.23. (a) Defines "digital court reporting" and "office."

(b) Requires OCA to conduct a study on digital court reporting, including an evaluation of the current use of digital court reporting in the courts of this state, including the cost, access, accuracy, and effectiveness of digital court reporting; an analysis of the use of digital court reporting in other states and jurisdictions; and recommendations on any necessary changes to statutes, rules, regulations, or standards regarding the use of digital court reporting in this state.

(c) Requires OCA, not later than October 1, 2026, to submit a report on the study conducted under this section to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and appropriate standing committees of the legislature.

(d) Provides that this section expires September 1, 2027.

ARTICLE 8. COPIES CERTIFIED BY CLERKS

SECTION 8.01. Amends Subchapter D, Chapter 51, Government Code, by adding Section 51.3033, as follows:

Sec. 51.3033. CERTIFIED COPIES. Requires that a certified copy made of an original document on file in a district clerk's office include certain information.

SECTION 8.02. Amends Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Government Code, by adding Section 51.503, as follows:

Sec. 51.503. CERTIFIED COPIES. Requires that a certified copy made of an original document on file in a joint clerk's office include certain information.

SECTION 8.03. Amends Chapter 191, Local Government Code, by adding Section 191.0041, as follows:

Sec. 191.0041. CERTIFIED COPIES. Requires that a certified copy made of an original document on file in a county clerk's office include certain information.

ARTICLE 9. CIVIL, CRIMINAL, AND APPELLATE COURT PROCEDURES

SECTION 9.01. Amends Section 16.073, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as follows:

Sec. 16.073. APPLICABILITY OF LIMITATIONS PERIODS TO ARBITRATION. Provides that a claim that is sought to be arbitrated is subject to the same limitations period that would apply to the claim if the claim had been brought in court. Provides that commencing an action asserting a claim by filing suit in a court of competent jurisdiction will toll the applicable limitations period for arbitration of the same claim.

Deletes text of existing Subsection (a) prohibiting a party from asserting a claim in an arbitration proceeding if the party could not bring suit for the claim in court due to the expiration of the applicable limitations period.

Deletes text of existing Subsection (b) authorizing a party to assert a claim in an arbitration proceeding after expiration of the applicable limitations period if the party brought suit for the claim in court before the expiration of the applicable limitations period and the parties to the claim agreed to arbitrate the claim or a court ordered the parties to arbitrate the claim.

SECTION 9.02. Amends Section 30.015(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as amended by H.B. 40, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Requires each party or the party's attorney, in a civil action filed in a certain court, to provide the clerk of the court with written notice of the party's name, the party's current residence or business address, and for a party who is an individual the last three digits of the party's social security number or the last three digits of the party's Texas driver's license. Makes a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 9.03. Amends Section 30.015(b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to prohibit the notice required by Subsection (a) (relating to requiring each party of the party's attorney, in a civil action filed in certain courts, to provide the clerk of the court with written notice of the party's name and current residence or business address), unless the party is the defendant in a tax suit, from being required from any party or party's attorney if the party has not appeared or answered in the civil action, and to make nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 9.04. (a) Amends Articles 43.09(a) and (k), Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

(a) Increases from $100 to $150 the amount which each day of confinement for the purposes of discharging the amount of fine and costs adjudged against a defendant.

(k) Provides that a defendant is considered to have discharged $150, rather than $100, of fines or costs for each eight hours of community service performed under Subsection (f) (relating to authorizing a court to require a defendant who is unable to pay a fine or costs to discharge all or part of the fine or costs by performing community service) of Article 43.09 (Fine Discharged).

(b) Provides that Article 43.09(a), Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this article, applies to a defendant who is confined or performs labor to discharge fines or costs on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the offense for which the fines or costs were imposed occurred before, on, or after that date.

SECTION 9.05. (a) Amends Article 45A.251(e), Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

(e) Requires the justice or judge, in addition to credit under Subsection (d) (relating to authorizing the justice or judge to direct the defendant to pay certain amounts, to make restitution to a victim of the offense, and to satisfy any other sanction authorized by law), in imposing a fine and costs in a case involving a misdemeanor punishable by fine only, to credit the defendant for any period the defendant was confined in jail or prison while awaiting trial or serving a sentence for another offense if that confinement occurred after the commission of the misdemeanor.

(b) Provides that Article 45A.251(e), Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this article, applies to a defendant who is sentenced for an offense on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the offense was committed before, on, or after that date.

SECTION 9.06. Amends Article 45A.254(e), Code to Criminal Procedure, to provide that a defendant is considered to have discharged not less than $150, rather than $100, of fines or costs for each eight hours of community service performed under Article 45A.254 (Community Service to Satisfy Fines or Costs).

SECTION 9.07. Amends Article 45A.459(i), Code of Criminal Procedure, to provide that a defendant is considered to have discharged not less than $150, rather than $100, of fines or costs for each eight hours of community service performed under Article 45A.459 (Community Service to Satisfy Fines or Costs for Certain Juvenile Defendants).

SECTION 9.08. Amends Article 45A.460(i), Code of Criminal Procedure, to provide that a defendant is considered to have discharged not less than $150, rather than $100, of fines or costs for each eight hours of community service performed under Article 45A.460 (Community Service to Satisfy Fines or Costs for Certain Juvenile Defendants for Offenses on School Grounds).

SECTION 9.09. Amends Section 233.006(b), Election Code, to make a nonsubstantive change.

SECTION 9.10. (a) Transfers Section 233.014, Election Code, to Chapter 30, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, redesignates it as Section 30.023, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and amends it, as follows:

Sec. 30.023. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR CONTEST OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION. (a)-(b) Makes no changes to these subsections.

(c) Provides that the filing of an election contest does not suspend implementation of a constitutional amendment approved by the majority of the votes cast.

Deletes existing text prohibiting the declaration of the official result of a contested election from being made until the contest is finally determined. Deletes existing text requiring SOS to tabulate the county returns and requiring the governor to announce the final vote count, as ascertained from the returns, in a written document. Deletes existing text requiring that the document announcing the final vote count state that a contest of election has been filed and that the declaration of the official result will not be made until the contest is finally determined.

(c-1) Requires the trial court to ensure a written ruling on a pretrial motion before the court is entered not later than the 30th day after the date the motion is filed.

(d) Prohibits the trial date from being earlier than the 45th day after the date of the contested election except at the request of the contestant.

Requires the trial court to ensure the judgment of the court is not filed later than the 180th day after the date of the contested election.

Deletes existing text prohibiting the trial date from being earlier than the 45th day after the date of the contested election nor later than the 180th day after the date of the contested election. Deletes existing text authorizing the trial date to be earlier than the 45th day after the date of the contested election at the request of the contestant.

(e) Makes no changes to this subsection.

(f) Requires the court to include in its judgment in a contest an order directing the governor to declare the election valid or void, as appropriate, rather than declare the official result of the election or to declare the election void, as appropriate, not later than the 10th day after the date the judgment becomes final.

(g) Makes no changes to this subsection.

(h) Requires the appellate court, if a contestant files an appeal of the contest, to ensure that the action is brought to final disposition not later than the 60th, rather than 180th, day after the date the judgment becomes final.

(b) Makes application of Section 233.014, Election Code, as redesignated and amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 9.11. Amends Section 6.4035(e), Family Code, to authorize, rather than prohibit, the party executing the waiver to sign the waiver using a digitized signature.

SECTION 9.12. (a) Amends Section 22.220, Government Code, by adding Subsection (e), to prohibit a party from filing a notice of appeal in a civil case requesting assignment of the appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Fifteenth Court of Appeals District unless the notice includes a matter arising out of or related to the case that is within the court's exclusive intermediate appellate jurisdiction.

(b) Makes application of Section 22.220(e), Government Code, as added by this Act, prospective.

SECTION 9.13. Amends Section 406.026, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 406.026. ELECTRONIC NOTARIZATION. Authorizes a signature requirement, in a proceeding filed under Title 1 (The Marriage Relationship) or Title 5 (The Parent-Child Relationship and the Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship), Family Code, if a signature is required to be notarized, acknowledged, verified, or made under oath, to be satisfied if the electronic signature of the person authorized to perform the act, together with all other information required to be included by other applicable law, is attached to logically associated with the signature required to be notarized, acknowledged, verified, or made under oath.

SECTION 9.14. Amends Section 21.049, Property Code, as follows:

Sec. 21.049. NOTICE OF DECISION OF SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS. Requires the clerk of a court hearing a proceeding under Chapter 21 (Eminent Domain), not later than the next working day after the day the decision is filed, to send notice of the decision by a delivery method described under Rule 21a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, rather than by certified or registered United States mail, return receipt requested, to the parties in the proceeding, or to their attorneys of record, at their addresses of record.

SECTION 9.15. Amends Section 34.03(a), Tax Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the clerk of the court to take certain actions, including, if the amount of excess proceeds is more than $25, before the 31st day after the date the excess proceeds are received by the clerk sending by a delivery method described by Rule 21a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, rather than by certified mail, return receipt requested, a written notice to the former owner of the property, at the former owner's last known address according to the records of the court or any other source reasonably available to the court that contains certain information.

SECTION 9.16. Amends Section 521.243(a), Transportation Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the clerk of the court, unless the petition is dismissed under Section 521.2421(f) (relating to requiring the court, if a court lacks jurisdiction over a petition, to dismiss the application), to send electronically or by a delivery method described by Rule 21a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, rather than by certified mail, to the attorney representing the state a copy of the petition and notice of the hearing if the petitioner's license was suspended, revoked, or canceled following convictions for certain offenses.

SECTION 9.17. Makes application of the changes in law made by this article to Articles 43.09(k), 45A.254(e), 45A.459(i), and 45A.460(i), Code of Criminal Procedure, prospective.

SECTION 9.18. Makes application of Section 6.4035(e), Family Code, and Section 406.026, Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective. .

ARTICLE 10. YOUTH DIVERSION

SECTION 10.01. Amends Article 45A.501, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by H.B. 1620, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, by adding Subdivision (8-a), to define "traffic offense."

SECTION 10.02. Amends Article 45A.504, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by H.B. 1620, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1), as follows:

(b) Provides that a child is eligible to enter into a diversion agreement under this subchapter only once every 12 months, rather than only once every 365 days.

(b-1) Provides that a child is eligible to enter into a diversion agreement under this subchapter for more than one offense if the offenses are alleged to have occurred as part of the same criminal episode, as defined by Section 3.01 (Definition), Penal Code.

SECTION 10.03. Amends Article 45A.510(a), Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by H.B. 1620, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Requires a justice of judge, if a charge involving a child who is eligible for diversion is filed with a court, and the child does not contest the charge, to divert the case under Article 45A.510 without the child having to enter a plea.

Deletes existing text requiring a justice or a judge, if a charge involving a child who is eligible for diversion is filed with a court and the child contests the charge, to divert the case under Article 45A.510 at the conclusion of trial on a finding of guilt without entering a judgment of conviction as provided by Article 45A.251 (Judgment). Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 10.04. Amends Article 45A.512(a), Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by H.B. 1620, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Provides that the clerk of a justice or municipal court is authorized to collect from a child's parent an administrative fee not to exceed $50, rather than a $50 administrative fee, to defray the costs of the diversion of the child's case under this subchapter.

SECTION 10.05. Amends Section 53.01(b-1), Family Code, as follows:

(b-1) Requires the person who is conducting the preliminary investigation, as appropriate, to refer the child's case to a community resource coordination group, a local-level interagency staffing group, or other community juvenile service provider for services under Section 53.011 (Services Provided to Certain Children and Families), if the person makes certain determinations regarding the child, including that the child is younger than 12 years of age, and the child and the child's family are not currently receiving services under Section 53.011 and would benefit from receiving the services, and resides in a general residential operation, as that term is defined by Section 42.002 (Definitions), Human Resources Code.

Deletes existing text requiring the person who is conducting the preliminary investigation, as appropriate, to refer the child's case to a community resource coordination group, a local-level interagency staffing group, or other community juvenile service provider for services under Section 53.011, if the person determines that the child is younger than 12 years of age. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 10.06. Amends Section 82.004, Family Code, as follows:

Sec. 82.004. FORM AND CONTENT OF APPLICATION. (a) Creates this subsection from existing text. Requires a person filing an application under Chapter 82 (Applying for Protective Order) to use the protective order application form created by OCA under Section 72.039 (Protective Order Applications, Forms, and Materials), Government Code, that is available on OCA's Internet website, and include certain information in the application, including the name, rather than the name and county of residence, of each applicant, the county of residence of each applicant, unless the applicant requests confidentiality pursuant to Section 82.011 (Confidentiality of Certain Information) or 85.007 (Confidentiality of Certain Information), and any additional information known by the applicant that may assist in finding the respondent for the purposes of services. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Authorizes an applicant to submit an affidavit of confidentiality to the court pursuant to Section 72.039, Government Code, or Section 82.011 or 85.007, Family Code, to omit confidential information from the application and any subsequent protective order. Provides that an affidavit of confidentiality is only for the court's use and prohibited from being transmitted to the respondent.

(c) Provides that a party's failure to use the standardized protective order form as required under Subsection (a) does not affect the validity or enforceability of the application or any subsequent protective order issued.

SECTION 10.07. Amends Section 42.0426(b), Human Resources Code, to require that a behavior intervention program implemented by a residential child-care facility include behavior intervention instruction for staff members who work directly with children served by the facility, including crisis response training for emergency behavior intervention with a goal of limiting law enforcement involvement, and training for all employees regarding the risks associated with the use of prone restraints.

SECTION 10.08. Amends Section 152.00145, Human Resources Code, as follows:

Sec. 152.00145. DIVERSION AND DETENTION POLICY FOR CERTAIN JUVENILES. (a) Defines "general residential operation."

(b) Creates this subsection from existing text. Requires a juvenile board to establish policies that prioritize:

(1) the diversion from referral to a prosecuting attorney under Chapter 53, Family Code, of children who are younger than 12 years of age or residing in a general residential operation, particularly children alleged to have engaged in conduct constituting a misdemeanor involving violence to a person; and

(2) the limitation of detention, to circumstances of last resort, of children who are younger than 12 years of age or residing in a general residential operation.

Makes nonsubstantive changes to this subsection.

(c) Requires a juvenile board, to monitor the success of policies implemented under Subsection (b) for children who reside in general residential operations, to track certain information.

SECTION 10.09. Makes application of Section 53.01(b-1), Family Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

ARTICLE 11. COURT-ORDERED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section 11.01. Amends Sections 574.011(a) and (b), Health and Safety Code, as amended by S.B. 1164, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Deletes existing text requiring that a certificate of medical examination for mental illness include the examining physician's opinion that as a result of that mental illness the examined person is evidencing an inability to recognize symptoms or appreciate the risks and benefits of treatment and, in the absence of inpatient mental health treatment, the examined person is likely to suffer serious risk of harm or to inflict serious harm on another person. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Makes a nonsubstantive change to this subsection.

SECTION 11.02. Amends Sections 574.034(a) and (d), Health and Safety Code, as amended by S.B. 1164, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Deletes existing text providing that the judge is authorized to order a proposed patient to receive court-ordered temporary inpatient mental health services only if the judge or jury finds, from clear and convincing evidence, that the proposed patient is a person with mental illness and as a result of that mental illness the proposed patient is evidencing an inability to recognize symptoms or to appreciate the risks and benefits of treatment and, in the absence of court-ordered temporary inpatient mental health services, is likely to suffer serious risk of harm or to inflict serious harm on another person. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(d) Deletes existing text requiring that the evidence, to be clear and convincing under Subsection (a), include expert testimony and, unless waived, evidence of a recent overt act or a continuing pattern of behavior that tends to confirm the proposed patient's inability to recognize symptoms or appreciate the risks and benefits of treatment. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 11.03. Amends Sections 574.035(a) and (e), Health and Safety Code, as amended by S.B. 1164, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Deletes existing text providing that the judge is authorized to order a proposed patient to receive court-ordered extended inpatient mental health services only if the jury, or the

judge if the right to a jury is waived, finds, from clear and convincing evidence, that as a result of the mental illness the proposed patient is evidencing an inability to recognize symptoms or to appreciate the risks and benefits of treatment and, in the absence of court-ordered temporary inpatient mental health services, is likely to suffer serious risk of harm or to inflict serious harm on another person. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(e) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

SECTION 11.04. Makes application of Chapter 574, Health and Safety Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

ARTICLE 12. POWERS OF THE SUPREME COURT

SECTION 12.01. Amends Section 22.004, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (c-1) and (c-2), as follows:

(c) Provides that, to ensure the supreme court has full rulemaking power in civil actions, all laws and parts of laws governing practice and procedure in civil actions enacted before May 15, 1939, are repealed, subject to Subsection (c-1). Provides that this subsection does not repeal a substantive law.

Deletes existing text providing that, so that the supreme court has full rulemaking power in civil actions, a rule adopted by the supreme court repeals all conflicting laws and parts of laws governing practice and procedure in civil actions, but substantive law is not repealed.

(c-1) Provides that a law or part of a law described by Subsection (c) is not superseded until the supreme court adopts a rule that governs the subject matter of the law or part of a law.

(c-2) Creates this subsection from existing text. Requires the court, at the time the supreme court files a rule, to file with SOS a list of each article or section of general law or each part of an article or section of general law that is superseded under Subsection (c-1), rather than is repealed or modified in any way.

SECTION 12.02. Amends Section 30.0035, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to delete existing text providing that Section 30.0035 (Personal Service of Process During Legislative Proceeding Prohibited) is not subject to Section 22.004(c), Government Code.

SECTION 12.03. Amends Section 34.041(c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to delete existing text prohibiting the supreme court, notwithstanding Section 22.004, Government Code, from amending or adopting rules in conflict with this subsection.

SECTION 12.04. Amends Section 1162.007(c), Estates Code, to delete existing text prohibiting the supreme court, notwithstanding Section 22.004, Government Code, from amending or adopting rules in conflict with this subsection.

SECTION 12.05. Amends Section 52.047(g), Government Code, to delete existing text prohibiting the supreme court, notwithstanding Sections 22.004 and 22.108(b), Government Code, from amending or adopting rules in conflict with this subsection.

SECTION 12.06. Amends Section 2273.004(c), Government Code, as added by S.B. 33, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(c) Deletes existing text providing that, notwithstanding any other law, a court is prohibited from awarding costs or attorney's fees under another rule the supreme court adopts under Section 22.004(g) to any defendant against whom an action is brought under Section 2273.004.

SECTION 12.07. Amends Section 171.208(i), Health and Safety Code, to prohibit a court, notwithstanding any other law, from awarding costs or attorney's fees under any other rule adopted by the supreme court under Section 22.004, Government Code, to a defendant in an action brought under Section 171.208 (Civil Liability for Violation or Aiding or Abetting Violation).

SECTION 12.08. Amends section 455.351(h), Occupations Code, as follows:

(h) Provides that, notwithstanding any other law or rule, rather than notwithstanding Section 22.004, Government Code:

(1)-(2) makes no changes to these subdivisions; and

(3) if an appeal is not taken by a party temporarily enjoined under Subchapter H (Other Penalties and Enforcement Provisions), rather than under Section 455.351 (Injunctive Relief; Civil Penalty), the parties are entitled to a full trial on the merits not later than the 90th day after the date of the temporary injunctive order.

SECTION 12.09. Amends Sections 24.0043(a), Property Code, as added by S.B. 38, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective January 1, 2026, as follows:

(a) Provides that, except as provided by Subsection (b) but notwithstanding any other law, rather than notwithstanding any other law including Section 22.004, Government Code, only the legislature is authorized to modify or suspend procedures prescribed by Chapter 24 (Forcible Entry and Detainer).

SECTION 12.10. Repealers: Sections 10.006 (Conflict) and 14.014 (Conflict With Texas Rules of Civil Procedure), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 14.013(c) (relating to providing that the adoption of a certain system by rule does not constitute a modification or repeal of certain provisions) and 14A.061(c) (relating to providing that the adoption of a certain system by rule does not constitute a modification or repeal of certain provisions), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 14A.062 (Conflict With Texas Rules of Civil Procedure) and 15.066 (Conflict With Rules of Civil Procedure), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 30.010(d) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 30.013(f) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 30.018(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 51.017(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 52.005(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 64.091(k) (relating to conflicting rules and prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 64.093(k) (relating to conflicting rules and prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 65.045(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 98.007(e) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 98B.008(e) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

Repealers: Sections 100B.004(e) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 134A.0065(k) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, as added by S.B. 2373, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025.

Repealers: Sections 134A.007(c) (relating to conflicting rules and prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules) and 154.028(m) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

SECTION 12.11. Repealer: Section 111.002(b) (relating to prohibiting certain guidelines from being repealed or modified by a rule adopted by the supreme court), Family Code.

Repealer: Section 301.002 (Conflict With Texas Rules of Civil Procedure), Family Code.

Repealer: Section 276.002(e) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Finance Code.

Repealer: Section 23.303(e) (relating to prohibiting certain provisions of Section 23.303 (Procedures Related to Motions For Summary Judgement; Annual Report) from being modified or repealed by the supreme court), Government Code, as added by S.B. 293, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025.

Repealer: Section 74.1625(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Government Code.

Repealer: Section 410.305(b) (relating to prohibiting the supreme court from amending or adopting certain rules), Labor Code.

SECTION 12.12. Provides that, on the effective date of this Act, a rule adopted by the supreme court under Section 22.004, Government Code, as that section existed before the effective date of this Act, that conflicts with a provision of law is invalid and has no effect in any action commenced in any court in this state on or after the effective date of this Act.

ARTICLE 13. JURORS

SECTION 13.01. Amends Article 19A.105(b), Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by H.B. 2637, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, to authorize certain qualified persons to be exempted, rather than to authorize certain qualified persons to claim an exemption, from grand jury service.

SECTION 13.02. Amends Section 62.107(c), Government Code, as amended by H.B. 2637, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, to require the clerk of the court with whom the declaration for permanent exemption is filed to notify the district clerk, rather than SOS.

SECTION 13.03. Amends Section 62.108(e), Government Code, as amended by H.B. 2637, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, to authorize a person who has claimed a permanent exemption from jury service because the person is 75 years of age or older to rescind the exemption at any time by filing a signed request for the rescission with the district clerk, with the voter registrar, of the county.

SECTION 13.04. Amends Sections 62.109(a) and (b), Government Code, as amended by H.B. 2637, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Authorizes the judge of a district court or, if authorized by the local administrative district judge or the county jury plan, the district clerk to permanently or for a specified period exempt from service as a juror in all the county and district courts in the county a

person with a physical or mental impairment or with an inability to comprehend or communicate in the English language that makes it impossible or very difficult for the person to serve on a jury.

(b) Requires a person requesting an exemption under Section 62.109 (Exemption for Physical or Mental Impairment or Inability to Comprehend English) to submit to the court or the district clerk described by Subsection (a) an affidavit stating the person's name and address and the reason for and the duration of the requested exemption.

SECTION 13.05. Makes application of the changes in law made by this article prospective.

ARTICLE 14. MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL, COURT, AND RECORD PROVISIONS

SECTION 14.01. Amends the heading to Section 13.0021, Election Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 13.0021. ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FROM CERTAIN FEDERAL AND STATE JUDGES, FEDERAL OFFICIALS, CLERKS, GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL COURT PERSONNEL, AND FAMILY MEMBERS.

SECTION 14.02. Amends Section 13.0021(b), Election Code, as follows:

(b) Requires the registrar of the county to omit from the registration list the residence address for a registration applicant who is:

(1)-(4) creates these subdivisions from existing text and makes nonsubstantive changes;

(5) a current or former county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or a current or former employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk or municipal court personnel;

(6) a current or former employee whose duties relate to court administration, including a court clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney;

(7) a current or former employee of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA;

(8) a current or former employee or commissioner of SCJC; or

(9) a family member of a person listed in Subdivisions (1)-(8) (relating to requiring the registrar to omit certain persons from the registration list).

Deletes existing text requiring the registrar of the county to omit, if the registration applicant is a federal judge, including a federal bankruptcy judge; a state judge; a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney; or a family member of a state judge, a federal judge, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, or a United States attorney, the applicant's residence address from the registration list. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 14.03. Amends Section 253.152(7), Election Code, to redefine "statewide judicial office."

SECTION 14.04. Amends Subchapter A, Chapter 58, Family Code, by adding Section 58.010, as follows:

Sec. 58.010. CONFIDENTIALITY OF WARRANTS OF ARREST. Provides that, notwithstanding Article 15.26 (Authority to Arrest Must Be Made Known), Code of Criminal Procedure, an arrest warrant issued for a child and a complaint or affidavit on

which an arrest warrant issued for a child is based are confidential and are authorized to be disclosed only to certain persons.

SECTION 14.05. (a) Amends Section 81.113(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the state bar, except as provided by Subsection (b), to credit an attorney licensed in this state with meeting the minimum continuing legal education requirements of the state bar for a reporting year if during the reporting year the attorney is employed full-time as an attorney by certain state entities or serving as a state official appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Makes application of Section 81.113, Government Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 14.06. Amends Section 92.001(1), Government Code, as added by H.B. 5081, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, to redefine "at-risk individual."

SECTION 14.07. Amends Section 552.117(a), Government Code, as amended by S.B. 370 and S.B. 1569, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(a) Provides that information is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 (Availability of Public Information) if it is information that relates to the home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, or social security number of certain persons or that reveals whether the person has family members, including a current or former county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or a current or former employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, regardless of whether the current or former clerk or employee complies with Section 552.024 (Electing to Disclose Address and Telephone Number) or 552.1175 (Exception: Confidentiality of Certain Personal Identifying Information of Peace Officers and Other Officials Performing Sensitive Governmental Functions); a current or former employee whose duties relate to court administration, including a court clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney, regardless of whether the employee complies with Section 552.024 or 552.1175; a current or former employee of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA, regardless of whether the employee complies with Section 552.024 or 552.1175; or a current or former employee or commissioner of SCJC, regardless of whether the employee or commissioner complies with Section 552.024 or 552.1175. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 14.08. Amends Section 552.117, Government Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1), as follows:

(b) Creates an exception under Subsection (b-1).

(b-1) Requires a county clerk or district clerk on request of a person to whom this section applies to redact information described by Subsection (a) that relates to the person posted on an Internet website by the clerk or an entity with which the county contracts for the provision or maintenance of the Internet website.

SECTION 14.09. Reenacts Section 552.1175(a), Government Code, as amended by S.B. 370, S.B. 1540, and S.B. 1569, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, and amends it, as follows:

(a) Provides that Section 552.1175 applies only to certain persons, including a current or former county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or a current or former employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk; a current or former employee whose duties relate to court administration, including a court

clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney; a current or former employee of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA; and a current or former employee or commissioner of the SCJC. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 14.10. Amends Section 552.1175, Government Code, by amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (e-1), as follows:

(e) Creates an exception under Subsection (e-1).

(e-1) Requires a county clerk or district clerk on request of a person to whom this section applies to redact information described by Subsection (b) (relating to providing that information of individuals to which this section applies is confidential) that relates to the person from any document the clerk posts on an Internet website.

SECTION 14.11. Amends Section 615.003(a), Local Government Code, to authorize a county, rather than a county with a population of 150,000 or more, to construct, enlarge, equip, and operate a parking lot or parking garage adjacent to or near the county courthouse.

SECTION 14.12. Amends Section 42.07(b), Penal Code, by amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivision (1-a) to define "court employee."

SECTION 14.13. Amends Section 42.07(c), Penal Code, as amended by S.B. 482, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, as follows:

(c) Provides that an offense under Section 42.07 (Harassment) is a Class B misdemeanor, except that the offense is a Class A misdemeanor if the offense was committed against a person the actor knows is a court employee, a state jail felony if the offense was committed against a person the actor knows is a court employee and the actor has previously been convicted under this section or a judge, and a felony of the third degree if the offense was committed against a person the actor knows is a judge and the actor has previously been convicted under this section. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 14.14. Reenacts Section 25.025(a), Tax Code, H.B. 1620, S.B. 370, and S.B. 1569, Acts of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, and effective September 1, 2025, and amends it, as follows:

(a) Provides that Section 25.025 (Confidentiality of Certain Home Address Information) applies only to certain persons, including a current or former county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or a current or former employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk; a current or former employee whose duties relate to court administration, including a court clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney; a current or former employee of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA; and a current or former employee or commissioner of SCJC.

SECTION 14.15. Amends Section 521.121, Transportation Code, by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (c-1), as follows:

(a) Requires that a driver's license include certain information, including the license holder's residence address or, for a license holder using the procedure under Subsection (c), the street address of the courthouse in which the license holder or license holder's spouse or parent performs duties related to court administration, including a court clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney, or the office address of the office in which the license holder or the license holder's spouse or parent performs duties as an employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or a county and district clerk, or of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA, or as an employee or commissioner of SCJC. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(c) Requires DPS to establish a procedure, on a license holder's qualification for or appointment to office as a federal or state judge as defined by Section 1.005 (Definitions), Election Code, or as a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or as a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or for a license holder whose duties relate to court administration, including a court clerk, court coordinator, court administrator, juvenile case manager, law clerk, or staff attorney, or as an employee of the office of a county clerk, district clerk, or county and district clerk, or of OCA and entities administratively attached to OCA, or as an employee or commissioner of SCJC, to omit the residence address of the judge, official, employee, or commissioner and any family member of the judge, official, employee, or commissioner on the license holder's license and to print, rather than include, in lieu of that address, the street address of the courthouse or office building in which the license holder or license holder's spouse or parent serves as a federal or state judge, official, employee, or commissioner. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(c-1) Provides that the residence address of a license holder whose residence address is omitted using the procedure under Subsection (c) is confidential and is available only for the official use of DPS or a law enforcement agency.

SECTION 14.16. Makes application of Section 42.07, Penal Code, as amended by this article, prospective.

SECTION 14.17. Requires DPS, not later than November 1, 2026, to review DPS's processes for implementation of and compliance with Section 521.121, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, and submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, each member of the legislature, and the council a written report containing the results of the review, a description of the methods used to prepare the review, and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

ARTICLE 15. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 15.01. Effective date, except as otherwise provided by a provision of this Act: the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.