**BILL ANALYSIS**

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| Senate Research Center | S.B. 2878 |
| 89R5620 BCH-D | By: Hughes |
|  | Jurisprudence |
|  | 4/8/2025 |
|  | As Filed |

**AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This is the Judicial Court Omnibus Bill for the 89th Legislative session. The bill is a non-partisan compilation of several bills that either create new courts, update aspects of judicial administration, or fulfill a local request.

As proposed, S.B. 2878 amends current law relating to the operation and administration of and practices and procedures related to proceedings in the judicial branch of state government.

**RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

**SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

ARTICLE 1. DISTRICT COURTS

SECTION 1.001. (a) Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 24, Government Code, by adding Sections 24.60035 and 24.60036, as follows:

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

Sec. 24.60036. 491ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT (BRAZORIA COUNTY). Provides that the 491st Judicial District is composed of Brazoria County.

(b) Provides that 490th Judicial District is created on September 1, 2025.

(c) Provides that 491st Judicial District is created on September 1, 2025.

SECTION 1.002. (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 September 1, 2025.

SECTION 1.003. (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 September 1, 2025.

SECTION 1.004. (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 September 1, 2025.

ARTICLE 2. STATUTORY COUNTY COURTS

SECTION 2.001. (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.

(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 2.002. (a) 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 may transfer cases under Section 24.003 (Transfer of Cases; Exchange of Benches).

(b) Repealer: Section 25.0212(d) (relating to requiring the judge of a county court at law to be paid an annual salary that is at least equal to 60 percent, but does not exceed 80 percent, of the annual salary that is paid to a district judge in Bowie County), Government Code.

SECTION 2.003. (a) Amends Section 24.1102(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Provides that, in addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, a county court at law in Hidalgo County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in family law cases and proceedings, civil cases, rather than civil cases in which the matter in controversy does not exceed $750,000, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney's fees and costs, as alleged on the page of the penalty, and criminal cases for an offense punishable as a state jail felony. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

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

SECTION 2.004. 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 2.005. (a) Repealer: Section 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.

ARTICLE 3. VISITING JUDGES

SECTION 3.001. 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) Provides that the daily compensation of a former or retired judge or justice for purposes of Section 25.0022 (Administration of Statutory Probate Courts) is set at an amount equal to the daily compensation of a judge of a statutory probate court in the county in which the former or retired judge or justice is assigned. Makes conforming changes.

(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 3.002. 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 of Texas 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 3.003. Amends Section 25.00255(a), Government Code, to make conforming changes.

ARTICLE 4. CRIMINAL LAW MAGISTRATES

SECTION 4.001. Amends Chapter 54, Government Code, by adding Subchapter EE, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER EE. BELL COUNTY CRIMINAL MAGISTRATES

Sec. 54.1601. APPOINTMENT. (a) Authorizes the Commissioners Court of Bell County to select magistrates to serve the courts of Bell County having jurisdiction in criminal matters.

(b) Requires the commissioners court to establish the minimum qualifications, salary, benefits, and other compensation of each magistrate position and determine whether the position is full-time or part-time. Requires that the qualifications require the magistrate to have served as a justice of the peace or municipal court judge or be an attorney licensed in this state.

(c) Provides that a magistrate appointed under this section serves at the pleasure of the commissioners court.

Sec. 54.1602. JURISDICTION. Provides that a magistrate has concurrent criminal jurisdiction with the judges of the justice of the peace courts of Bell County.

Sec. 54.1603. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) Requires the Commissioners Court of Bell County to establish the powers and duties of a magistrate appointed under this subchapter. Provides that, except as otherwise provided by the commissioners court, a magistrate has the powers of a magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure and other laws of this state and may administer an oath for any purpose.

(b) Requires a magistrate to give preference to performing the duties of a magistrate under Article 15.17 (Duties of Arresting Officer and Magistrate), Code of Criminal Procedure.

(c) Authorizes the commissioners court to designate one or more magistrates to hold regular hearings to give admonishments, set and review bail and conditions of release, appoint legal counsel, and determine other routine matters relating to preindictment or pending cases within those courts' jurisdiction.

(d) Requires a magistrate, in the hearings provided under Subsection (c), to give preference to the case of an individual held in county jail.

(e) Authorizes a magistrate to inquire into a defendant's intended plea to the charge and set the case for an appropriate hearing before a judge or master.

Sec. 54.1604. JUDICIAL IMMUNITY. Provides that a magistrate has the same judicial immunity as a district judge.

Sec. 54.1605. WITNESSES. (a) Provides that a witness who is sworn and who appears before a magistrate is subject to the penalties for perjury and aggravated perjury provided by law.

(b) Authorizes a referring court to fine or imprison a witness or other court participant for failure to appear after being summoned, refusal to answer questions, or other acts of direct contempt before a magistrate.

SECTION 4.002. Amends Article 2A.151, Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

Art. 2A.151. TYPES OF MAGISTRATES. Provides that certain officers are magistrates for purpose of the Code of Criminal Procedure, including a criminal magistrate appointed by the Bell County Commissioners Court and a magistrate appointed by a judge of a district court or statutory county court of Denton or Grayson County. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

ARTICLE 5. BUSINESS COURT

SECTION 5.001. Amends Section 659.012, Government Code, by adding Subsection (a-1), as follows:

(a-1) Provides that, in addition to the annual base salary from the state prescribed by Subsection (a) (relating to providing that certain officers receive certain salaries), a judge of a division of the business court is entitled to an annual salary supplement from the state in an amount equal to the difference between the judge's annual base salary from the state and the maximum combined base salary from all state and county sources paid to a district judge under Subsection (a).

ARTICLE 6. JURORS

SECTION 6.001. Amends Article 19A.051(c), Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

(c) Requires the judge to test the qualifications for and exemptions, rather than excuses, from service as a grand juror and impanel the completed grand jury as provided by Chapter 19A (Grand Jury Organization).

SECTION 6.002. Amends the heading to Subchapter C, Chapter 19A, Code of Criminal Procedure, to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C. GRAND JUROR QUALIFICATIONS; EXEMPTIONS FROM SERVICE

SECTION 6.003. Amends Article 19A.101, Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

Art. 19A.101. New heading: GRAND JUROR QUALIFICATIONS; LISTS OF DISQUALIFIED PERSONS. (a) Provides that a person is authorized to be selected or serve as a grand juror only if the person meets certain requirements, including having never been convicted of a felony. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(b) Requires the clerk of the district court, on the third business day of each month, to prepare:

(1) a list of persons who in the preceding month were disqualified from serving as a grand juror based on the person's citizenship, rather than based on the person's citizenship or indictment or conviction for misdemeanor theft or a felony, and send a copy of the list to certain persons, including the voter registrar for the county in which the grand jury is sitting and the prosecuting attorney for the court to which the grand jurors were summoned for investigation into whether any person made a false claim concerning the person's qualification under Subsection (a)(2) (providing that a person is authorized to be selected or serve as a grand juror only if the person is a citizen of the United States), rather than Subsection (a)(2), (7) (relating to providing that a person is authorized to be selected or serve only if the person has never been convicted of misdemeanor theft) or (8) (relating to providing that a person is authorized to be selected or serve only if the person has never been convicted of a felony);

(2) a list of persons who in the preceding month were disqualified from serving as a grand juror based on the person's residency and send a copy of the list to the secretary of state (SOS) and the voter registrar for the county in which the grand jury is sitting; and

(3) a list of persons who in the preceding month were disqualified from serving as a grand juror based on the person's indictment for misdemeanor theft or a felony and send a copy of the list to SOS, the voter registrar for the county in which the grand jury is sitting, and the prosecuting attorney for the court to which the grand jurors were summoned for investigation into whether any person made a false claim concerning the person's qualifications under Subsection (a)(9) (relating to providing that a person is authorized to be selected or serve only if the person is not under indictment or other legal accusation for misdemeanor theft or a felony).

SECTION 6.004. Amends Article 19A.105, Code of Criminal Procedure, as follows:

Art. 19A.105. New heading: EXCUSE AND EXEMPTION FROM GRAND JURY SERVICE. (a) Requires the court to excuse from serving any summoned person who does not possess the requisite qualifications or who claims an exemption to which the person is entitled.

(b) Authorizes certain qualified persons to be exempted, rather than excused, from grand jury service, including a person who is 75 years of age or older, rather than a person older than 70 years of age, and a person responsible for the care of a child who is younger than 18 years of age and who will be without adequate supervision if the person serves on the grand jury.

SECTION 6.005. Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 19A, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Articles 19A.106 and 19A.107, as follows:

Art. 19A.106. PERMANENT EXEMPTION FOR ELDERLY. (a) Authorizes a person who is entitled to exemption from grand jury service because the person is 75 years of age or older to establish a permanent exemption on that ground as provided by this article.

(b) Authorizes a person to claim a permanent exemption by filing with the district clerk or the clerk of a district court in the county, through an electronic transmission, mail, or personal delivery, a signed statement affirming the person is 75 years of age or older and desires a permanent exemption on that ground.

(c) Requires the district clerk to maintain a current register of the name of each person who resides in the county and who has claimed and is entitled to a permanent exemption from grand jury service because the person is 75 years of age or older.

(d) Requires the district clerk, on the third business day of each month, to prepare a list of persons who in the preceding month were permanently exempted from serving as a grand juror under this article and send a copy of the list to SOS and the voter registrar of each county served by the clerk.

(e) Prohibits a person whose name appears on the register of persons permanently exempted from serving as a grand juror under this article from being selected or summoned for grand jury service by any district judge in the county.

(f) Authorizes a person who has claimed a permanent exemption from jury service under this article to rescind the exemption at any time by filing a signed request for the rescission with the district clerk or the clerk of a district court in the county. Provides that rescission of a permanent exemption does not affect the right of a person who is 75 years of age or older to claim a permanent exemption at a later time.

Art. 19A.107. LIST OF DISQUALIFIED CONVICTED PERSONS. (a) Requires the district clerk to maintain a list of the name and address of each person who is disqualified under this subchapter from grand jury service because the person was convicted of misdemeanor theft or a felony.

(b) Provides that a person who was convicted of misdemeanor theft or a felony is permanently disqualified from serving as a juror.

(c) Prohibits a person whose name appears on the list maintained under this article from being selected or summoned for grand jury service by any judge of a district court served by the clerk.

(d) Requires the district clerk, on the third business day of each month, to send a copy of the list maintained under this article to certain persons.

SECTION 6.006. Amends Sections 62.001(a) and (b), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the jury wheel to be reconstituted by using certain information as the source, including all names on a current list to be furnished by the Department of Public Safety of Texas, showing the citizens of the country meet certain requirements, including are not disqualified from jury service under certain provisions of Section 62.102(3) (relating to providing that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person is a resident of this state and of the county in which the person is to serve as a juror) or (7) (relating to providing that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person has not been convicted of misdemeanor theft).

(b) Prohibits the names of persons listed on a register of persons exempt from jury service, notwithstanding Subsection (a), from being placed in jury wheel, as provided by Sections 62.108 (Permanent Exemption for Elderly) and 62.109 (Exemption for Physical or Mental Impairment or Inability to Comprehend English), rather than Sections 62.108, 62.109, 62.113 (Compilation of List of Noncitizens), 62.114 (Compilation of List of Nonresidents), and 62.115 (Compilation of List of Convicted Persons).

SECTION 6.007. Amends Section 62.0132(g), Government Code, as follows:

(g) Authorizes the information contained in a completed questionnaire to be disclosed to certain persons, including, other than information provided that is related to Section 62.102(2) (relating to providing that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person is a citizen of the United States), (3), (7), (8) (relating to providing that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person has not been convicted of misdemeanor theft or a felony), or (9) (relating to providing that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person is not under indictment or other legal accusation for misdemeanor theft or a felony), rather than Section 62.102(8) or (9), the voter registrar of a county in connection with any matter of voter registration or the administration of elections.

SECTION 6.008. Amends Section 62.102, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 62.102. GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR JURY SERVICE. Provides that a person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person meets certain requirements, including having not been convicted of a felony and having not served as a petit juror for six days during the preceding three months in the county court or during the preceding six months in the district court. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 6.009. Amends Section 62.106(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Authorizes a person qualified to serve as a petit juror to establish an exemption from jury service if the person meets certain requirements, including if the person is 75 years of age or older, rather than over 75 years of age.

SECTION 6.010. Amends Section 62.107(c), Government Code, as follows:

(c) Authorizes a person who files a statement with a clerk of the court, as provided by Subsection (a) (relating to authorizing a person to establish an exemption from service without appear in person by filing a signed statement), claiming an exemption because the person is 75 years of age or older, rather than over 75 years of age, to also claim the permanent exemption on that ground authorized by Section 62.108 (Permanent Exemption for Elderly) by including in the statement filed with the clerk a declaration that the person desires the permanent exemption. Requires the clerk of the court with whom the declaration is filed to notify the voter registrar of the county.

Deletes existing text requiring the clerk of the court with whom the document is filed, promptly after a statement claiming a permanent exemption on the basis of age is filed, to have a copy delivered to the voter registrar of the county.

SECTION 6.011. Amends Section 62.108, Government Code, by amending Subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) and adding Subsection (c-1), as follows:

(a) Makes a conforming change to this subsection.

(b) Authorizes a person to claim a permanent exemption by filing the with district clerk, rather than voter registrar, of the county, by mail or personal delivery, a signed statement affirming that the person is 75 years of age or older and desires a permanent exemption on that ground or in the manner provided by Section 62.107(c). Makes conforming changes.

(c) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

(c-1) Requires the district clerk, on the third business day of each month, to prepare a list of persons who in the preceding month claimed and were entitled to a permanent exemption under this section and send a copy of the list to SOS and the voter registrar of each county served by the clerk.

(e) Makes conforming changes to this subsection.

SECTION 6.012. Amends Section 62.109, Government Code, by amending Subsections (a), (b), (d), and (e) and adding Subsection (b-1), as follows:

(a) Authorizes the judge of a district court or the district clerk, rather than the judge of a district court by order, 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 this section to submit to the court or the district clerk an affidavit stating the person's name and address and the reason for and the duration of the requested exemption.

(b-1) Requires the district clerk to maintain a current list indicating the name of each person permanently or temporarily exempt under this section and the period of the exemption.

(d) Prohibits a person included on the list maintained under Subsection (b-1), rather than a person listed on the register, from being summoned for jury service during the period for which the person is exempt. Makes a conforming change.

(e) Makes a conforming change to this subsection.

SECTION 6.013. Amends Sections 62.113(a) and (b), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Requires the clerk of the court to maintain a list of the name and address of each person who is disqualified, rather than excused or disqualified, under Subchapter B (Juror Qualifications) from jury service because the person is not a citizen of the United States.

(b) Makes a conforming change to this subsection.

SECTION 6.014. Amends Sections 62.114(a) and (b), Government Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 6.015. Amends Sections 62.115(c) and (d), Government Code, as follows:

(c) Requires, rather than authorizes, the district clerk to remove from the jury wheel the jury wheel card for the person whose name appears on the list.

(d) Requires the clerk, on the third business day of each month, to send a copy of the list of persons disqualified because of a conviction of misdemeanor theft or a felony to SOS, the voter registrar of the county, and the prosecuting attorney for a court to which a person was summoned for investigation into whether the person made a false claim of qualification under Section 62.102(7) or (8). Deletes existing text requiring the clerk to send SOS a copy of the list of persons disqualified because of a conviction of misdemeanor theft or a felony in the preceding month.

SECTION 6.016. Makes application of the changes in law made by this article prospective.

ARTICLE 7. COURT ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 7.001. Amends Section 57.002(d), Government Code, as follows:

(d) Authorizes a court, subject to Subsection (e) (relating to providing that a person appointed as a spoken language interpreter is required to meet certain requirements), in a county with a population of 50,000 or more, to appoint a spoken language interpreter who is not a certified or licensed court interpreter in certain circumstances, including if the court is a justice court, municipal court, or municipal court of record. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 7.002. Amends Section 74.092(a), Government Code, as follows:

(a) Requires a local administrative judge, for the courts for which the judge serves as local administrative judge, to take certain actions, including establishing a court security committee to adopt security policies and procedures for the courts served by the local administrative district judge that is composed of certain persons, including a representative of each constable's office in the county and a justice of the peace who serves the county. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 7.003. Redesignates Section 74.092(b), Government Code, as Section 74.0922, and amends it as follows:

Sec. 74.0922. DUTIES OF COURT SECURITY COMMITTEE. Requires, rather than authorizes a court security committee established under Section 74.092(a)(13) (relating to requiring a local administrative judge to establish a court security committee to adopt security policies and procedures) to meet at least once annually to develop and submit recommendations, rather than to recommend, to the county commissioners court on the uses of resources and expenditures of money for courthouse security, including recommendations on the allocation of any county court security budget, but prohibits it from directing the assignment of those resources or the expenditure of those funds.

ARTICLE 8. MISCELLANEOUS COURT PROVISIONS

SECTION 8.001. Amends Section 615.003(a), Local Government Code, to authorize a county with a population of 40,000, rather than 150,000, or more to construct, enlarge, equip, and operate a parking lot or parking garage adjacent to or near the county courthouse.

ARTICLE 9. CONFLICT; EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 9.001. Provides that, to the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails over another Act of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

SECTION 9.002. Effective date: September 1, 2025.