

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R12506 SLO-D

C.S.H.B. 858
By: Goodman (Harris)
Jurisprudence
4/23/2003
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Under current law, judges of county courts at law and county criminal courts in Tarrant County are paid a total annual salary that is fixed at \$1,000 less than the total annual salary of any district judge in the county. Some large counties in Texas can pay their county court at law and county criminal court judges an amount "not less than \$1,000 less" than a district judge. C.S.H.B. 858 requires Tarrant County judges to be paid in a similar manner to other large counties.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 25.2222(f), Government Code to require that county court at law judges and county criminal court judges in Tarrant County be paid an annual salary in an amount that is not less than \$1,000 less than the total annual salary, including supplements and salary increases, paid any district judge in the county.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 25.2223(f), Government Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 3. Effective September 1, 2003, amends Section 32.220(a), Government Code, to authorize the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County to budget and pay, rather than requiring the commissioners court to pay, the judges of the district courts and criminal district courts having jurisdiction only in that county an annual salary in an amount set by the commissioners court, rather than \$8,000, for services rendered and for administrative duties, notwithstanding Section 659.012.

SECTION 4. Effective September 1, 2007, reenacts Section 32.220(a), Government Code.

SECTION 5. Makes application of Sections 1 and 2 of this Act prospective to October 1, 2003.

SECTION 6. Effective date: September 1, 2003.