

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of a county court at law in Navarro County.

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

4 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 25, Government Code, is
5 amended by adding Sections 25.1771 and 25.1772 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 25.1771. NAVARRO COUNTY. Navarro County has one
7 statutory county court, the County Court at Law of Navarro County.

8 Sec. 25.1772. NAVARRO COUNTY COURT AT LAW PROVISIONS. (a)

9 In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and

10 other law, and except as limited by Subsection (b), a county court

11 at law in Navarro County has concurrent jurisdiction with the

12 district court in:

(1) felony cases to:

(A) conduct arraignments;

(B) conduct pretrial hearings;

(C) accept guilty pleas; and

(D) conduct jury trials on assignment of a
presiding in Navarro County and acceptance of the
judge of the county court at law.

(2) Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases:

(3) family law matters:

(4) juvenile matters;

(5) probate matters; and

(6) appeals from the justice and municipal courts.

1 (b) A county court at law does not have general supervisory
2 control or appellate review of the commissioners court or
3 jurisdiction of:

4 (1) suits on behalf of this state to recover penalties
5 or escheated property;
6 (2) felony cases involving capital murder;
7 (3) misdemeanors involving official misconduct; or
8 (4) contested elections.

9 (c) The judge of a county court at law must have the same
10 qualifications as those required by law for a district judge.

11 (d) The judge of a county court at law shall be paid a total
12 annual salary set by the commissioners court at an amount that is
13 not less than \$1,000 less than the total annual salary received by a
14 district judge in the county. A district judge's or statutory
15 county court judge's total annual salary does not include
16 contributions and supplements paid by a county.

17 (e) The judge of a county court at law may not engage in the
18 private practice of law.

19 (f) The district clerk serves as clerk of a county court at
20 law in matters of concurrent jurisdiction with the district court,
21 and the county clerk shall serve as clerk of a county court at law in
22 all other matters. Each clerk shall establish a separate docket for
23 a county court at law.

24 (g) The official court reporter of a county court at law is
25 entitled to receive a salary set by the judge of the county court at
26 law with the approval of the commissioners court.

27 (h) Jurors summoned for a county court at law or a district

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1 court in the county may by order of the judge of the court to which
2 they are summoned be transferred to another court for service and
3 may be used as if summoned for the court to which they are
4 transferred.

5 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding Section 25.1771, Government
6 Code, as added by this Act, the County Court at Law of Navarro
7 County is created January 1, 2011, or on an earlier date determined
8 by the Commissioners Court of Navarro County by an order entered in
9 its minutes.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1682 was passed by the House on April 22, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1682 was passed by the Senate on May 20, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor