

By: Wentworth

S. B. No. 320

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the qualifications for office of justice of the peace in
3 certain counties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 27, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 27.0055 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 27.0055. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUSTICES OF CERTAIN
8 COUNTIES. A justice of the peace in a county with a population of
9 200,000 or more must be:

10 (1) at least 25 years of age; and

11 (2) licensed to practice law in this state.

12 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
13 to a justice of the peace elected or appointed on or after the
14 effective date of this Act. A justice of the peace elected or
15 appointed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
16 law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act
17 until the term for which the justice was elected or appointed
18 expires or the justice is otherwise removed as provided by law, and
19 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.