

SUBJECT: Standardizing appointment procedures for certain clerks in Bexar County

COMMITTEE: Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 8 ayes — Leach, Davis, Julie Johnson, Krause, Middleton, Moody, Schofield, Smith

0 nays

1 absent — Dutton

WITNESSES: For — Lucy Adame, Bexar County Clerk; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Allison Greer Francis, CHCS)

Against — None

BACKGROUND: Government Code sec. 25.0173 establishes the jurisdiction and staffing requirements for statutory probate courts in Bexar County.

Some have called to standardize the administrative process to appoint and compensate deputy clerks for statutory probate courts in Bexar County.

DIGEST: CSHB 3908 would amend Government Code sec. 25.0173 to remove certain provisions related to the appointment of a deputy clerk to a statutory probate court in Bexar County.

The bill would remove a provision stating that the appointment of a deputy clerk for a statutory probate court in that county would take effect when confirmed in writing by the judge of the court to which the clerk was assigned. The bill also would remove language specifying the amount and manner of payment of a deputy clerk's annual salary.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.