BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 77R2937 JMC-D H.B. 1394 By: Berman (Staples) Intergovernmental Relations 5/8/2001 Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the City of Bullard does not have a municipal court of record. Without a record of court proceedings, a person may appeal a municipal court decision to a county court without prima facie evidence of judicial or clerical error, effectively resulting in a de novo trial for that person. In addition to the possible nullification of soundly made municipal court decisions, such appeals to the county court may cause a backlog in county court cases. The creation of a municipal court of record may reduce the number of appeals filed with the county court. H.B. 1394 creates a municipal court of record in Bullard.

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 Chapter 30, Government Code, by adding Subchapter MM, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER MM. BULLARD

Sec. 30.01481. APPLICATION. Provides that this subchapter applies to the City of Bullard.

Sec. 30.01482. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGE. Sets forth requirements for a municipal judge. Provides that Section 30.00006(c) does not apply to this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.