

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R3919 QS-F

S.B. 847  
By: Nelson  
Intergovernmental Relations  
3/18/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the City of Westlake does not have a municipal court of record. Texas law, absent of a local statute providing for a municipal court of record, requires appeals for a municipal court to be done by a trial de novo, or a new trial. A local statute providing for a municipal court of record, however, would require the appeal to be based on the recording errors made during the trial in lieu of a new trial. As proposed, S.B. 847 authorizes Westlake to create municipal courts of record and designates Tarrant county courts at law as having the appellate jurisdiction.

### **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, Local Government Code, by adding Subchapter UU, as follows:

#### SUBCHAPTER UU. WESTLAKE

Sec. 30.01781. APPLICATION; DEFINITION. Provides that this subchapter applies to the Town of Westlake located in Tarrant and Denton counties. Defines "appellate courts."

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