BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, the Forty-first Legislature at its Regular Session passed House Bill No. 677, being "AN ACT to provide for the selection of jurors for service in Civil suits in the District and County Courts of counties having a population of at least sixteen thousand seven hundred and seventy-five and not more than seventeen thousand, as shown by the 1920 Federal Census; making the provisions of this Act cumulative of all other laws on the subject, and declaring an emergency"; and,

WHEREAS, said Bill has been vetoed for the reasons set out in the following statement, which has been filed with said Bill in the office of the Secretary of State:

Executive Office

April 1, 1929.

This Bill places the jury wheel in force in counties having a population of between 16,775 and 17,000 people.

The justification for jury wheels in our larger counties is the fact that the population is so great that jury commissioners cannot know a large enough per cent of the citizenship to fairly distribute jury service among them. The number of courts in some of our larger counties, under the system of jury commissioners, to draw juries, would require the naming of a jury commission and the drawing of juries at each term of each court. This is another reason for the jury wheel in largercounties. I can conceive of no necessity for a jury wheel system in counties with a population not exceeding 17,000. In the selection of jurors from a jury wheel it is a matter of chance as to whose name is drawn for jury service from the jury wheel. He may be a good juror or a poor juror. For example, in special venires drawn from a jury wheel in this county, I have seen special venires with approximately fifty per cent of its members of the negro race. Obviously, this leads to a difficult situation in the matter of enforcing the law or trying jury cases on the civil docket. I am of the opinion that the jury commission system is far better for the selection of juries, unless the population of the county is so large that the jury commissioners cannot know the citizenship and thereby properly distribute jury service.

For these reasons I have vetoed this Bill.

Dan Moody

Governor of Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT I, DAN MOODY, Governor of the State of Texas, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of this State, have vetoed said Bill for the reasons stated and on file, and do hereby proclaim said action to have been taken.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of State to be impressed hereon at Austin, Texas, this the 1st day of April, A. D. 1929.

Dan Moody
Governor of Texas

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Jane Y. McCallum
Secretary of State