P R O C L A M A T I O N

BY THE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

I am vetoing and filing with the Secretary of State House Bill No. 138 for the reason that statewide judicial re-districting is one of the real needs today. This was borne out by the recommendations of the State Bar Association's special committee, Judicial Section Committee, Texas Civil Judicial Council, and all other groups which have made a study of the case-loads of various trial courts in the State.

The Legislature has too long followed the policy of merely creating additional courts. I regret that at this time I cannot agree to continuance of this policy and must veto all of the bills creating additional courts.

I hope some future legislative session will take the action necessary to accomplish statewide judicial redistricting.

House Bill No. 138 reached my office within the ten-day period prior to adjournment of the Fifty-third Legislature, Regular Session.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of State to be affixed hereto at Austin this the _____ day of June, A. D., 1953.

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

BY THE GOVERNOR:

SECRETARY OF STATE

PRESS MEMORANDUM

Office of the Governor

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June 15, 1953

Governor Shivers has vetoed the following bills and resolutions and sent them to the Secretary of State for filing:

Court Bills

H. B. 138 - Lieck - would create two additional district courts in Bexar County.

H. B. 571 - Miller - would create two additional district courts in Harris County.

S. B. 228 - Lock - would create additional district court for Angelina, Cherokee and Nacogdoches Counties.

S. B. 317 - Strauss - would create additional district court in Gonzales, Colorado, Lavaca and Guadalupe Counties.

(The veto proclamations on these bills are identical; a sample is attached.)

Other Bills

H. B. 93 - Murray - that there shall be no civil cause of action for damages against persons or firms operating a vehicle on the highways within the open range" ...by reason of such vehicle striking, killing, injuring or damaging any animal on said highway." (Veto message points out that words "any animal" would make this exemption apply when the driver of a vehicle negligently or wrongfully kills or injuries a horse or mule harnessed to a buggy or wagon, or being ridden on the highway...its effect is not limited to those animals running at large.)

H. B. 274 - Sentell - to prescribe the method for determining the affiliated unit eligibility of school districts in counties declared to be in drought disaster areas. (Attorney General advised that bill is invalid because the term "affiliated unit" is not defined in HB

274 or elsewhere in Texas school laws, and therefore "we must hold it indefinite, uncertain and void...")

H. B. 361 - Seeligson - would exempt San Antonio Conservation Society from taxation. (Attorney General has advised that bill is contrary to Section 56 of Article III of the Texas Constitution.)

H. B. 379 - Downer - would amend Article 634 VCS by adding new paragraph requiring State Board of Control to purchase manufactured products of visually handicapped persons or workshops for the blind. (Attorney General has advised that bill violates Section 36 of Article III of the Texas Constitution.)

H. B. 628 - Bergman - would provide for salaries for county auditors in certain counties. (Attorney General has advised bill violates Section 56, Article III of the Texas Constitution.)

H. B. 882 - McDaniel - would fix salaries of criminal district attorneys or county attorneys in certain counties. (Attorney General has advised the bill violates Section 56, Article III of Texas Constitution.)

~~H.~~ S. B. 273 - Willis - would provide for assessment and collection of a fee or tax in divorce cases filed in certain counties. (Attorney General has advised the bill violates Section 35, Article III of the Texas Constituion.)

S. B. 173 - Moore - Re: State Employees Retirement System - would grant credit to state employees who had not worked for State prior to World War II or prior to establishment of Retirement System - would give credit for military service to those who left state employment during World War II to work in defense plants, etc. (Veto proclamation says in part: "...examination and study of this proposed legislation indicates that it would create a special consideration and

favored position under the Employees' Retirement System of Texas for a very small number of people, while on the other hand, it would do great damage to the stability of the Retirement System funds. It is my opinion that this bill would do a great amount of damage and and very little good.")

Resolution

H.C.R. 45 - Hull and Sayers - attempting to amend Article 7066 VCS. (Attorney General has advised resolution violates Section 12, Article III of Texas Constitution.