Chapter 89

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S.B. No. 1195

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1	<u>AN ACT</u>
2	relating to postponement of jury service in certain counties.
3	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
4	SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 62, Government Code, is
5	amended by adding Section 62.0147 to read as follows:
6	Sec. 62.0147. MEANS OF POSTPONEMENT OF JURY SERVICE IN
7	CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a county that
8	has:
9	(1) a council of judges composed of the judges of the
10	district courts and county courts at law; and
11	(2) a designated jury duty court that addresses
12	administrative matters related to jury service paid for by the
13	county.
14	(b) A person summoned for jury service may request a
15	postponement of the person's initial appearance for jury service.
16	The person may request the postponement by contacting the council
17	of judges' designee, in person, in writing, or by telephone before
18	the date on which the person is summoned to appear.
19	(c) On receipt of a request under Subsection (b), the
20	council of judges' designee shall grant the person a postponement
21	<u>if:</u>
22	(1) the person has not been granted a postponement in
23	that county since the date on which the jury wheel from which the
24	person was selected to appear was most recently reconstituted; and

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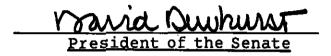
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1 (2) the designee and the person determine a substitute 2 date on which the person will appear for jury service that is not 3 later than six months after the date on which the person was 4 originally summoned to appear. 5 (d) A person who is granted a postponement under Subsection 6 (c) may request additional postponements in the manner described by 7 Subsection (b). The council of judges' designee may grant an additional postponement if the designee and the person determine 8 that the person has a legitimate reason for the postponement. 9 Before the designee may grant the additional postponement, the 10 11 designee and the person must determine a date on which the person will appear for jury service that is not later than six months after 12 13 the date on which the person was to appear after the later of the 14 <u>date of:</u> 15 (1) \_ a postponement under Subsection (c); or (2) <u>the</u> 16 <u>last postponement granted under</u> this 17 subsection. SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only 18 to a person summoned to appear for jury service who is required to 19 appear on or after the effective date of this Act. 20 A person 21 summoned to appear for jury service who is required to appear before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on 22 the date the person is required to appear, and the former law is 23 continued in effect for that purpose. 24 25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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S.B. No. 1195

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beaker of the House

<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 295 passed the Senate on April 11, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.....

Secretary ate the

<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 1195 passed the House on May 5, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, one present not voting\_\_\_\_\_\_

<u>Chief</u> the se

Approved:

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<u>19 MAJ III</u> <u>Date</u> <u>PICK PEPE</u>Y

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Secretary of State