

1-1 By: Naishtat (Senate Sponsor - Rodríguez) H.B. No. 1923  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 13, 2015;  
 1-3 May 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on State  
 1-4 Affairs; May 22, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 22, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Huffman	X			
1-8 Ellis	X			
1-9 Birdwell	X			
1-10 Creighton	X			
1-11 Estes	X			
1-12 Fraser	X			
1-13 Nelson	X			
1-14 Schwertner	X			
1-15 Zaffirini	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to qualifications of special judges.  
 1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
 1-21 SECTION 1. Section 151.003, Civil Practice and Remedies  
 1-22 Code, is amended to read as follows:  
 1-23 Sec. 151.003. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGE. The special judge  
 1-24 must be a retired or former district court, statutory county court,  
 1-25 statutory probate court, or appellate court judge who:  
 1-26 (1) has served as a judge for at least four years in a  
 1-27 district court, statutory county court, statutory probate court, or  
 1-28 appellate court;  
 1-29 (2) has developed substantial experience in the  
 1-30 judge's [his] area of specialty;  
 1-31 (3) has not been removed from office or resigned while  
 1-32 under investigation for discipline or removal; and  
 1-33 (4) annually demonstrates completion [~~that he has~~  
 1-34 ~~completed~~] in the past calendar year of at least five days of  
 1-35 continuing legal education in courses approved by the state bar or  
 1-36 the supreme court.  
 1-37 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a referral of a case to a  
 1-38 special judge under Chapter 151, Civil Practice and Remedies Code,  
 1-39 made on or after the effective date of this Act. A referral made  
 1-40 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law  
 1-41 applicable to the referral immediately before the effective date of  
 1-42 this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.  
 1-43 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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