

1-1 By: Shine, Buckley (Senate Sponsor - Buckingham) H.B. No. 452
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 23, 2019;
 1-3 April 24, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Criminal Justice; May 15, 2019, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 15, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the creation of truancy masters for Bell County.
 1-18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-19 SECTION 1. Chapter 54, Government Code, is amended by
 1-20 adding Subchapter B to read as follows:
 1-21 SUBCHAPTER B. BELL COUNTY TRUANCY MASTERS
 1-22 Sec. 54.101. APPOINTMENT. (a) The Commissioners Court of
 1-23 Bell County may select masters to serve the justice courts of Bell
 1-24 County having jurisdiction in truancy matters.
 1-25 (b) The commissioners court shall establish the salary,
 1-26 benefits, and other compensation of each master position and shall
 1-27 determine whether the position is full-time or part-time.
 1-28 (c) A master appointed under this section serves at the
 1-29 pleasure of the commissioners court.
 1-30 Sec. 54.102. JURISDICTION. A master appointed under this
 1-31 subchapter has concurrent jurisdiction with the judges of the
 1-32 justice of the peace courts of Bell County over cases involving
 1-33 truant conduct in accordance with Section 65.004, Family Code.
 1-34 Sec. 54.103. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The Commissioners
 1-35 Court of Bell County shall establish the powers and duties of a
 1-36 master appointed under this subchapter.
 1-37 (b) An order of referral may limit the use or power of a
 1-38 master.
 1-39 (c) Unless limited by published local rule, by written
 1-40 order, or by an order of referral, a master may perform all acts and
 1-41 take all measures necessary and proper to perform the tasks
 1-42 assigned in a referral.
 1-43 (d) A master may administer oaths.
 1-44 Sec. 54.104. JUDICIAL IMMUNITY. A master has the same
 1-45 judicial immunity as a district judge.
 1-46 Sec. 54.105. TRAINING. A master appointed under this
 1-47 subchapter must successfully complete all training a justice of the
 1-48 peace is required to complete under state law.
 1-49 Sec. 54.106. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SUMMONS OR ORDER. If an
 1-50 attorney, party, witness, or any other person fails to comply with a
 1-51 summons or order, the master may certify that failure in writing to
 1-52 the referring court for appropriate action.
 1-53 Sec. 54.107. WITNESSES. (a) A witness appearing before a
 1-54 master is subject to the penalties of perjury as provided by Chapter
 1-55 37, Penal Code.
 1-56 (b) A witness referred to the court under Section 54.106 is
 1-57 subject to the same penalties and orders that may be imposed on a
 1-58 witness appearing in a hearing before the court.
 1-59 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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