## The Senate of The State of Vexas

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM E1.808 P.O. BOX 12068 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512) 463-0103 FAX (512) 463-1526 DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS

504 E. Hodges Palestine, Texas 75801 (903) 729-7717 Fax: (903) 723-0408



TODD STAPLES

October 21, 2004

Committees: Infrastructure Development & Security, Chair

EDUCATION FINANCE

NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Infrastructure Development & Security Committee: 445 Sam Houston Building (512) 463-0067 Fax: (512) 463-0097

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OCT 27 2004

**OPINION COMMITTEE** 

FILE # MC-43995-04

RQ-0283-GA

The Honorable Greg Abbott Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, Texas 78711-2548

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1.D.# 043995

Dear General Abbott:

OPEN RECORDS DIVISION

I have been contacted by my constituents regarding the ability of a county with a population less than 18,000 to reduce the number of precincts for justices of the peace and constables from four to one.

It is my understanding, under Article 5 Section 18(a) of the Texas Constitution, a county with a population less than 18,000 may consolidate the number of precincts through an action of the Commissioners Court without aid from the legislature. I respectfully request a written response from your office on this issue.

Thank you for your assistance with this issue. If I may provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely yours

Fodd Staples

TS/JS/pb

