

By: Estes, et al.

S.B. No. 2065

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the rights of certain religious organizations and
3 individuals relating to a marriage that violates a sincerely held
4 religious belief.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Family Code, is amended by adding
7 Subchapter G to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER G. FREEDOM OF RELIGION WITH RESPECT TO RECOGNIZING OR
9 PERFORMING CERTAIN MARRIAGES

10 Sec. 2.601. RIGHTS OF CERTAIN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS. A
11 religious organization, an organization supervised or controlled
12 by or in connection with a religious organization, an individual
13 employed by a religious organization while acting in the scope of
14 that employment, or a clergy or minister may not be required to
15 solemnize any marriage or provide services, accommodations,
16 facilities, goods, or privileges for a purpose related to the
17 solemnization, formation, or celebration of any marriage if the
18 action would cause the organization or individual to violate a
19 sincerely held religious belief.

20 Sec. 2.602. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION
21 PROHIBITED. A refusal to provide services, accommodations,
22 facilities, goods, or privileges under Section 2.601 is not the
23 basis for a civil or criminal cause of action or any other action by
24 this state or a political subdivision of this state to penalize or

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1 withhold benefits or privileges, including tax exemptions or
2 governmental contracts, grants, or licenses, from any protected
3 organization or individual.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.