

By: Simmons

H.B. No. 2899

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of discrimination by political subdivisions.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 250, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 250. MISCELLANEOUS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF MUNICIPALITIES, ~~[AND]~~ COUNTIES, AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

SECTION 2. Chapter 250, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 250.008 to read as follows:

Sec. 250.008. CERTAIN REGULATION OF DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED. (a) A political subdivision may not adopt an order, ordinance, or other measure to:

(1) protect a class of persons from discrimination; or
(2) reduce or expand a class of persons protected under state law from discrimination.

(b) An order, ordinance, or other measure that is adopted by a political subdivision before the date this section becomes law and that violates Subsection (a) is null and void.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.