

1-1 By: Birdwell, et al. S.B. No. 29  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2023; March 9, 2023, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;  
 1-4 March 22, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,  
 1-5 Nays 3; March 22, 2023, 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	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18		X		

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to prohibited governmental entity implementation or  
 1-22 enforcement of a vaccine mandate, mask requirement, or private  
 1-23 business or school closure to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Subtitle D, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is  
 1-26 amended by adding Chapter 81B to read as follows:

1-27 CHAPTER 81B. PROHIBITED CORONAVIRUS PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

1-28 Sec. 81B.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

1-29 (1) "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus  
 1-30 disease and any variants of the disease.

1-31 (2) "Governmental entity" means this state, a local  
 1-32 government entity as defined by Section 418.004, Government Code,  
 1-33 or an agency of this state or a local government entity.

1-34 Sec. 81B.002. PROHIBITED FACE-COVERING MANDATE. A  
 1-35 governmental entity may not implement, order, or otherwise impose a  
 1-36 mandate requiring a person to wear a face mask or other face  
 1-37 covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

1-38 Sec. 81B.003. PROHIBITED VACCINE MANDATE. A governmental  
 1-39 entity may not implement, order, or otherwise impose a mandate  
 1-40 requiring a person to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

1-41 Sec. 81B.004. PROHIBITED CLOSURE MANDATE FOR PRIVATE  
 1-42 BUSINESSES AND SCHOOLS. A governmental entity may not implement,  
 1-43 order, or otherwise impose a mandate requiring the closure of a  
 1-44 private business, public school, open-enrollment charter school,  
 1-45 or private school to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

1-46 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 1-47 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 1-48 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 1-49 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 1-50 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

1-51 \* \* \* \* \*