

By: Bhojani, Moody, Lujan, LaHood, Talarico,  
et al.

H.B. No. 1044

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to persons authorized to conduct a marriage ceremony.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 2.202(a) and (b), Family Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The following persons are authorized to conduct a marriage ceremony:

(1) a licensed or ordained Christian minister or priest;

(2) a Jewish rabbi;

(3) a Buddhist monk or priest;

(4) a Hindu pundit;

(5) a Muslim imam;

(6) a Sikh granthi;

(7) [(3)] a person who ~~[is an officer of a religious organization and who]~~ is authorized by a religious [the] organization to conduct a marriage ceremony; and

(8) [(4)] a current, former, or retired federal judge or state judge.

(b) For the purposes of Subsection (a)(8) ~~[(a)(4)]~~, "federal judge" and "state judge" have the meanings assigned by Section 25.025, Tax Code.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a marriage ceremony that is conducted on or after the effective

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1 date of this Act. A marriage ceremony conducted before the  
2 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the  
3 date the ceremony was conducted, and the former law is continued in  
4 effect for that purpose.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.