

By: Armbrister

S.B. No. 379

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to persons who are authorized to conduct a marriage  
3 ceremony.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 2.202(a), Family Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

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

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

11 (2) a Jewish rabbi;

12 (3) a person who is an officer of a religious  
13 organization and who is authorized by the organization to conduct a  
14 marriage ceremony; and

15 (4) a justice of the supreme court, judge of the court  
16 of criminal appeals, justice of the courts of appeals, judge of the  
17 district, county, and probate courts, judge of the county courts at  
18 law, judge of the courts of domestic relations, judge of the  
19 juvenile courts, retired justice or judge of those courts, justice  
20 of the peace, retired justice of the peace, magistrate or retired  
21 magistrate, or judge or magistrate of a federal court of this state.

22 SECTION 2. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

23 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to a  
24 marriage ceremony that is conducted on or after the effective date

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