

By: Uresti

H.B. No. 1861

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to restrictions on the secretary of state's political activities.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 31.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.0015. RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. (a)

In this section:

(1) "Campaign organization" means an organization, including a specific-purpose committee as defined by Section 251.001, the primary purpose of which is to promote the election of a person to public office.

(2) "Executive position" means a position of discretionary, policymaking, and management authority in an organization.

(3) "Honorary position" means a prominent position in an organization held by a person wholly or partly by virtue of the person's public office or status in another organization, including a position in which the person is not required to perform any specific duties.

(b) The secretary of state may not hold an honorary or executive position in a campaign organization supporting a candidate, or be appointed as the campaign treasurer for a candidate or for a specific-purpose committee supporting a

1 candidate, if the candidate is seeking election to an office for
2 which a resident of this state is qualified to vote, including an
3 office of the federal government.

4 (c) At the time the secretary of state accepts a position or
5 appointment in violation of this section, the secretary vacates the
6 position of secretary of state.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.