

1-1 By: West (Senate Sponsor - Seliger) H.B. No. 319
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2007;
1-3 May 10, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 19, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 19, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to persons who are authorized to conduct a marriage
1-9 ceremony.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 2.202(a), Family Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 (a) The following persons are authorized to conduct a
1-14 marriage ceremony:

1-15 (1) a licensed or ordained Christian minister or
1-16 priest;

1-17 (2) a Jewish rabbi;

1-18 (3) a person who is an officer of a religious
1-19 organization and who is authorized by the organization to conduct a
1-20 marriage ceremony; and

1-21 (4) a justice of the supreme court, judge of the court
1-22 of criminal appeals, justice of the courts of appeals, judge of the
1-23 district, county, and probate courts, judge of the county courts at
1-24 law, judge of the courts of domestic relations, judge of the
1-25 juvenile courts, retired justice or judge of those courts, justice
1-26 of the peace, retired justice of the peace, judge of a municipal
1-27 court in a municipality with a population of 15,000 or less, or
1-28 judge or magistrate of a federal court of this state.

1-29 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-30 to a marriage ceremony that is conducted on or after the effective
1-31 date of this Act. A marriage ceremony conducted before the
1-32 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
1-33 date the ceremony was conducted, and the former law is continued in
1-34 effect for that purpose.

1-35 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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