

1-1 By: Gonzales (Senate Sponsor - Lucio) H.B. No. 2796
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 30, 2007;
1-3 May 2, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 International Relations and Trade; May 15, 2007, reported
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 15, 2007,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the authority of certain counties to create or finance
1-10 museums.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 10, Local Government Code, is
1-13 amended by adding Chapter 330 to read as follows:

1-14 CHAPTER 330. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1-15 Sec. 330.001. OPERATION AND FINANCING OF COUNTY MUSEUMS.

1-16 (a) This section applies only to a county that has substantial
1-17 urban areas and borders on an international boundary. For the
1-18 purposes of this subsection, a county has substantial urban areas
1-19 only if at least four municipalities, each with a population of more
1-20 than 25,000, are located in the county.

1-21 (b) A county may construct or operate a museum in the county
1-22 to display, construct, restore, preserve, maintain, or reconstruct
1-23 buildings, works of art, and related furnishings for exhibitions.

1-24 (c) A county may contract with an entity operating a museum
1-25 in the county to provide the museum described by Subsection (b). To
1-26 be eligible to enter into the contract, the entity must be:

1-27 (1) organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation
1-28 Act (Article 1396-1.01 et seq., Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes); and

1-29 (2) accredited by a nationally recognized association
1-30 of museums acceptable to the county.

1-31 (d) As part of the contract, the commissioners court may
1-32 appropriate money from the general fund of the county to the museum
1-33 to purchase, display, construct, restore, preserve, maintain,
1-34 operate, or reconstruct a building, work of art, or related
1-35 furnishings used by the museum to further its exhibitions or
1-36 operations and to promote county purposes under this chapter.

1-37 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-38 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-39 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-40 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-41 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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