A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2   relating to persons authorized to perform a marriage ceremony.

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

4   SECTION 1. Sections 2.202(a) and (b), Family Code, are

5   amended to read as follows:

6   (a) The following persons are authorized to conduct a

7   marriage ceremony:

8   (1) a licensed or ordained Christian minister or

9   priest;

10   (2) a Jewish rabbi;

11   (3) a person who is an officer of a religious

12   organization and who is authorized by the organization to conduct a

13   marriage ceremony; [and]

14   (4) a justice of the supreme court, judge of the court

15   of criminal appeals, justice of the courts of appeals, judge of the

16   district, county, and probate courts, judge of the county courts at

17   law, judge of the courts of domestic relations, judge of the

18   juvenile courts, [retired justice or judge of those courts,]

19   justice of the peace, [retired justice of the peace,] or judge or

20   magistrate of a federal court of this state;

21   (5) a judge or magistrate of a federal court of another

22   state;

23   (6) a judge or justice of a court of another state that

24   is analogous to a court listed in Subdivision (4); and

1   (7) a retired judge, justice, or magistrate of a court

2 listed in Subdivision (4), (5), or (6).

3   (b) For the purposes of this section, a retired judge,

4 justice, or magistrate is:

5   (1) [a retired judge or justice is] a former judge or

6 justice who is vested in the Judicial Retirement System of Texas

7 Plan One or the Judicial Retirement System of Texas Plan Two; or

8   (2) a former judge, justice, or magistrate who has an

9 aggregate of at least eight [12] years of service as a judge, [or]

10 justice, or magistrate of any type listed in Subsection (a)(4),

11 (5), or (6).

12   SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only

13 to a marriage ceremony that is conducted on or after the effective

14 date of this Act. A marriage ceremony conducted before the

15 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the

16 date the ceremony was conducted, and the former law is continued in

17 effect for that purpose.

18   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.