

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 4508

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creation and duties of a county economic development district.

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

SECTION 1. Heading of Chapter 383 of Title 12 of the Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 383. COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS.

SECTION 2. Section 383.001, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 383.002. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. This chapter furthers the public purpose of developing and diversifying the economy of this state by providing incentives for the location and development of projects in certain counties to promote economic development and to attract visitors and tourists.

SECTION 3. Section 383.003, Local Government Code, amends Subsections (a) and (c) to read as follows:

Sec. 383.003. FINDINGS. (a) ~~Small and medium-sized~~ Counties in this state need incentives for the development of public improvements and projects to promote economic development and to attract visitors and tourists to those counties, and those counties are at a disadvantage in competing with counties in other states for the location and development of projects that attract visitors by virtue of the availability and prevalent use of financial incentives in other states.

1 (c) The creation of economic development districts is  
2 essential to the accomplishment of Section 52-a, Article III, Texas  
3 Constitution, and to the accomplishment of the other public  
4 purposes stated in this chapter and further serves the purpose of  
5 Section 59, Article XVI, and Section 52, Article III, Texas  
6 Constitution.

7 SECTION 4. Section 383.021, Local Government Code, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Sec. 383.021. COUNTIES AUTHORIZED TO CREATE DISTRICTS.

10 (a) The commissioners court of a county ~~with a population of~~  
11 ~~400,000 or less,~~ on petition of the owners of land in a proposed  
12 district, may commence the creation of a county economic  
13 development district.

14 SECTION 5. Section 383.023(2), Local Government Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (2) include a name for the proposed district, which  
17 must include the name of the county followed by the words "Economic  
18 Development District No. \_\_\_\_\_";.

19 SECTION 6. Section 383.033(b), Local Government Code, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or  
22 against the proposition: "The creation of \_\_\_\_\_ County  
23 Economic Development District No. \_\_\_\_\_ and the adoption of a  
24 proposed local sales and use tax rate of \_\_\_\_\_ (the rate specified  
25 in the election order) to be used for the promotion and development  
26 of tourism and economic development."

27 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.