

By: Berman

H.B. No. 294

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting a person who is in the United States illegally from bringing a claim in a state court.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 30, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Section 30.018 to read as follows:

Sec. 30.018. CLAIM BY ILLEGAL ALIEN PROHIBITED. (a) In this section, "illegal alien" means an individual who is not a citizen or national of the United States and whose presence in the country is not authorized by federal law.

(b) An illegal alien may not bring a claim or otherwise seek legal or equitable relief, including as a counterclaimant or cross-claimant, in a court of this state.

SECTION 2. This Act applies only to an action commenced on or after the effective date of this Act. An action commenced before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law applicable to the action immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2011.