

By: Hochberg

H.B. No. 1859

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the applicability of architectural barrier standards.

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

SECTION 1. Section 469.003(c), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The standards adopted under this chapter do not apply to a ~~[place used primarily for religious rituals within a]~~ building or facility owned, operated, or controlled by ~~[of]~~ a religious organization or entity controlled by a religious organization, including a place of worship, as referenced in Section 307, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Section 12187), if the religious organization or entity applies to the department for this exemption.

SECTION 2. Section 469.054(c), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The commission may charge a fee for:

(1) the review of the plans or specifications of a building or facility;

(2) the inspection of a building or facility; and

(3) the processing of an application for a variance from accessibility standards for a building or facility, or for an exemption from the standards under Section 469.003(c).

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.