

By: Gooden

H.B. No. 1177

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of general-law municipalities to restrict sex offenders from child safety zones in the municipality.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 341, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 341.906 to read as follows:

Sec. 341.906. LIMITATIONS ON REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS IN GENERAL-LAW MUNICIPALITY. (a) In this section:

(1) "Child safety zone" means premises where children commonly gather. The term includes a school, day-care facility, playground, public or private youth center, public swimming pool, video arcade facility, or other facility that regularly holds events primarily for children.

(2) "Playground," "premises," "school," "video arcade facility," and "youth center" have the meanings assigned by Section 481.134, Health and Safety Code.

(b) To provide for the public safety, the governing body of a general-law municipality by ordinance may restrict an individual who is required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, from going in, on, or within a specified distance of a child safety zone in the municipality.

(c) The ordinance may establish a distance requirement described by Subsection (b) at any distance of not more than 1,000 feet.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.