

By: Rodriguez of Travis

H.B. No. 2520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to restrictions on the political activities of a county
3 clerk who administers elections; creating a criminal offense.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 31, Election Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 31.125 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 31.125. RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF COUNTY
8 CLERK WHO ADMINISTERS ELECTIONS. (a) This section applies only to
9 a county clerk of a county for which the position of county
10 elections administrator has not been created.

11 (b) A county clerk may not be a candidate for an office of a
12 political party or hold a position in a political party.

13 (c) A county clerk may not make a political contribution or
14 political expenditure, as defined by the law regulating political
15 funds and campaigns, or publicly support or oppose a candidate for
16 public office or a measure to be voted on at an election. This
17 subsection does not apply with respect to the county clerk's own
18 candidacy for a public office.

19 (d) A county clerk commits an offense if the clerk violates
20 this section. An offense under this subsection is a Class A
21 misdemeanor.

22 (e) In this section, "candidate" means a person who has
23 taken affirmative action, as described by the law regulating
24 political funds and campaigns, for the purpose of gaining

1 nomination or election.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.