

By: White of Bell

H.B. No. 2553

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a private business owner's right to choose whether to
3 provide goods or services.

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

5 SECTION 1. Title 12, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by
6 adding Chapter 606 to read as follows:

7 CHAPTER 606. PRIVATE BUSINESS OWNER'S CHOICE TO PROVIDE GOODS OR
8 SERVICES

9 Sec. 606.001. RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PROVIDE GOODS OR SERVICES.

10 (a) A private business owner may refuse to provide goods or services
11 to any person based on a sincerely held religious belief or on
12 conscientious grounds.

13 (b) A private business owner may not:

14 (1) be compelled to provide goods or services in
15 violation of that business owner's sincerely held religious or
16 personal belief; or

17 (2) be held liable for refusing to provide goods or
18 services to any person based on a sincerely held religious belief or
19 on conscientious grounds.

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