

By: Craddick

H.B. No. 492

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a waiver for certain programs from youth camp
3 licensing.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 141, Health and Safety Code, is amended
6 by adding Section 141.0025 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 141.0025. WAIVER; APPEAL. (a) The department may
8 grant a waiver from the requirements of this chapter to a program
9 that:

10 (1) is sponsored by a religious organization as
11 defined by Section 464.051;

12 (2) has been in operation for at least 30 years;

13 (3) operates one camp for not more than seven days in
14 any year;

15 (4) ensures that background checks are conducted on
16 all adults participating in the program; and

17 (5) conducts all camp activities in accordance with
18 guidelines published by a national organization specializing in the
19 operation of youth camps.

20 (b) A waiver granted by the department under Subsection (a)
21 is valid until the waiver is revoked for cause by the department.

22 (c) A person who operates a program for which an application
23 for a waiver under this section has been denied or for which a
24 waiver under this section has been revoked may appeal the action in

1 the manner provided for appeal of contested cases under Chapter
2 2001, Government Code.

3 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
4 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
5 Services Commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement
6 Section 141.0025, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.