

By: Birdwell, et al.

S.B. No. 1733

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to recognition of certain identification documents by governmental officials.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 6, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 620 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 620. RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Sec. 620.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Governmental entity" means:

(A) the state;

(B) a political subdivision of the state, including a municipality, a county, or any kind of district; or

(C) an institution, board, commission, office, department, court, or other agency:

(i) in the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of state government, including an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; or

(ii) of a political subdivision of the state.

(2) "Governmental official" means an employee, agent, or elected or appointed official of a governmental entity. The term does not include an election officer accepting a voter under Chapter 63, Election Code.

Sec. 620.002. RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN IDENTIFICATION

1 DOCUMENTS BY GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS. (a) A governmental official
2 may not accept, rely on, or otherwise use an identification
3 document for the purpose of determining a person's identity or
4 residency unless the document is expressly authorized for that
5 purpose under Subsection (b).

6 (b) The secretary of state by rule shall specify the
7 identification documents that may be accepted by a governmental
8 official. Rules adopted under this subsection:

9 (1) may not authorize an identification document
10 issued by a political subdivision of this state; and

11 (2) must require that foreign identification
12 documents include appropriate security measures to ensure
13 authenticity.

14 Sec. 620.003. CERTAIN IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT POLICIES
15 PROHIBITED. (a) A governmental entity may not adopt or enforce a
16 rule, ordinance, order, policy, or other measure that is
17 inconsistent with Section 620.002.

18 (b) A rule, ordinance, order, policy, or other measure that
19 is inconsistent with Section 620.002 is void.

20 Sec. 620.004. EFFECT ON ELECTION LAW. This chapter may not
21 be construed to have any effect on state election law, including the
22 acceptable forms of photo identification under Chapter 63, Election
23 Code.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.