

By: Martinez Fischer

H.B. No. 3891

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the definition of "governmental unit" for purposes of
3 the Texas Tort Claims Act.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 101.001(3), Civil Practice and Remedies
6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) "Governmental unit" means:

8 (A) this state and all the several agencies of
9 government that collectively constitute the government of this
10 state, including other agencies bearing different designations,
11 and all departments, bureaus, boards, commissions, offices,
12 agencies, councils, and courts;

13 (B) a political subdivision of this state,
14 including any city, county, school district, junior college
15 district, levee improvement district, drainage district,
16 irrigation district, water improvement district, water control and
17 improvement district, water control and preservation district,
18 freshwater supply district, navigation district, conservation and
19 reclamation district, soil conservation district, communication
20 district, public health district, and river authority;

21 (C) an emergency service organization; ~~and~~

22 (D) any other institution, agency, or organ of
23 government the status and authority of which are derived from the
24 Constitution of Texas or from laws passed by the legislature under

1 the constitution; and

2 (E) a unit of a political subdivision, including
3 a municipally owned water utility authorized by Section 552.017,
4 Local Government Code.

5 SECTION 2. Section 101.001, Civil Practice and Remedies
6 Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a cause of action that
7 accrues on or after the effective date of this Act. A cause of
8 action that accrues before the effective date of this Act is
9 governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective
10 date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that
11 purpose.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.