H.B. No. 4179

1	AN ACT
2	relating to the cemeteries in certain counties.
3	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
4	SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 713, Health and Safety
5	Code, is amended by adding Section 713.0271 to read as follows:
6	Sec. 713.0271. CEMETERY OWNED BY CERTAIN COUNTIES. A
7	county with a population of more than 550,000 that borders a county
8	with a population of more than 3.3 million may own, operate, and
9	maintain a cemetery.
10	SECTION 2. Section 713.028(a), Health and Safety Code, is
11	amended to read as follows:
12	(a) For purposes of historical preservation or public
13	health, safety, or welfare, a commissioners court may use public
14	funds, county employees, county inmate labor as provided by Article
15	43.10, Code of Criminal Procedure, and county equipment to maintain
16	a cemetery that is at least [has a grave marker more than] 50 years
17	old.
18	SECTION 3. Section 713.026(a), Health and Safety Code, is
19	amended to read as follows:
20	(a) Except as provided by Sections 713.027, 713.0271, and
21	713.028, a trustee of a fund established under this subchapter or a
22	member of the commissioners court or any other elected county
23	officer may not pay or use public funds or county employees,
24	equipment, or property to maintain a neglected or unkept public or

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1 private cemetery.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives 3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as 4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this 5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this 6 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4179 was passed by the House on May 7, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4179 was passed by the Senate on May 21, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

Date

Governor