A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting COVID-19 vaccine mandates by a governmental entity.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 161, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 161.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 161.0015. COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATES PROHIBITED. (a) In this section, "governmental entity" means this state, a local government entity as defined by Section 418.004, Government Code, or an agency of this state or a local government entity.

(b) A governmental entity may not implement, order, or otherwise impose a mandate requiring an individual to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

(c) An individual who is the subject of a violation of Subsection (b) may bring an action in a district court in the county in which the violation occurred for injunctive relief to prevent further violation of that subsection.

(d) A claimant may recover reasonable expenses incurred in bringing an action under Subsection (c), including court costs, attorney's fees, investigation costs, witness fees, and deposition expenses.

SECTION 2. Section 161.0015, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, applies only to conduct that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act.
SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2022.