

By: Slaton

H.B. No. 33

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a prohibition on certain companies and hospitals from requiring employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccination; creating a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 2, Labor Code, is amended by adding Chapter 24 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 24. CERTAIN EMPLOYER-REQUIRED VACCINATIONS PROHIBITED

Sec. 24.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Company" has the meaning assigned by Section 808.001, Government Code.

(2) "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus disease.

(3) "Hospital" means a health facility that is licensed under Chapter 241, Health and Safety Code.

(4) "License" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other authorization that:

(A) is issued by a state agency or political subdivision; and

(B) a company must obtain to engage in a particular business or occupation.

(5) "Political subdivision" means a county, municipality, school district, special purpose district, or other subdivision of state government that has jurisdiction limited to a

1 geographic portion of the state.

2 (6) "State agency" has the meaning assigned by Section  
3 609.001, Government Code.

4 Sec. 24.002. OFFENSE; PENALTIES. (a) A company or hospital  
5 commits an offense if the company or hospital requires, as a  
6 condition of employment, an employee to receive a COVID-19  
7 vaccination.

8 (b) Each employee required to receive a vaccination is a  
9 separate offense under Subsection (a).

10 (c) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

11 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, a company that is  
12 convicted of an offense under this section is not eligible to hold a  
13 license until the fifth anniversary of the date of the conviction.  
14 A state agency or political subdivision shall revoke a license  
15 issued to a company that is ineligible to hold the license under  
16 this subsection.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
18 last day of the legislative session.