

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.B. No. 4243

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to treating persons who were dishonorably discharged from the military solely on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity as honorably discharged veterans under state law.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 434, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter J to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER J. BENEFITS, RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, AND IMMUNITIES OF
CERTAIN VETERANS

Sec. 434.451. CERTAIN PERSONS CONSIDERED HONORABLY DISCHARGED. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a person is considered to have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States or the Texas military forces for purposes of state law if the person was dishonorably discharged solely on the basis of the person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b) A person considered to have been honorably discharged under Subsection (a) is entitled to all benefits, rights, privileges, and immunities provided by state law to an honorably discharged veteran.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.