

By: Bhojani, Lujan, Moody, Talarico, Leach,  
et al.

H.B. No. 1884

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to persons authorized to conduct a marriage ceremony.

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

4 SECTION 1. Sections 2.202(a), (b), and (b-1), Family Code,  
5 are amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The following persons are authorized to conduct a  
7 marriage ceremony:

8 (1) a licensed or ordained Christian minister or  
9 priest;

10 (2) a Jewish rabbi;

11 (3) a Buddhist monk or priest;

12 (4) a Hindu pundit;

13 (5) a Muslim imam;

14 (6) a Sikh granthi;

15 (7) [(3)] a person who [is an officer of a religious  
16 organization and who] is authorized by a religious [the]  
17 organization to conduct a marriage ceremony;

18 (8) [(4)] a justice of the supreme court, judge of the  
19 court of criminal appeals, justice of the courts of appeals, judge  
20 of the district, county, and probate courts, judge of the county  
21 courts at law, judge of the courts of domestic relations, judge of  
22 the juvenile courts, retired justice or judge of those courts,  
23 justice of the peace, retired justice of the peace, judge of a  
24 municipal court, retired judge of a municipal court, associate

1 judge of a statutory probate court, retired associate judge of a  
2 statutory probate court, associate judge of a county court at law,  
3 retired associate judge of a county court at law, or judge or  
4 magistrate of a federal court of this state; and

5 (9) [~~(5)~~] a retired judge or magistrate of a federal  
6 court of this state.

7 (b) For the purposes of Subsection (a)(8) [~~(a)(4)~~], a  
8 retired judge or justice is a former judge or justice who is vested  
9 in the Judicial Retirement System of Texas Plan One or the Judicial  
10 Retirement System of Texas Plan Two or who has an aggregate of at  
11 least 12 years of service as judge or justice of any type listed in  
12 Subsection (a)(8) [~~(a)(4)~~].

13 (b-1) For the purposes of Subsection (a)(9) [~~(a)(5)~~], a  
14 retired judge or magistrate is a former judge or magistrate of a  
15 federal court of this state who is fully vested in the Federal  
16 Employees Retirement System under 28 U.S.C. Section 371 or 377.

17 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
18 to a marriage ceremony that is conducted on or after the effective  
19 date of this Act. A marriage ceremony conducted before the  
20 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the  
21 date the ceremony was conducted, and the former law is continued in  
22 effect for that purpose.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.