

By: Middleton

S.B. No. 2551

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of appropriated money for nonprofit organizations advocating for governmental adoption of a policy of managed retreat.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 2113, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter F to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER F. RESTRICTIONS REGARDING CERTAIN POLICIES

Sec. 2113.401. MANAGED RETREAT. (a) In this section, "managed retreat" means the mandated removal of population, buildings, infrastructure, or other assets from lands adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico through government action and forced resettlement. The term does not include the renourishment of beaches or engaging in property buyouts under Chapter 61, Natural Resources Code, following natural disasters.

(b) A state agency or political subdivision of this state shall not adopt or enforce a policy of managed retreat as defined by this section.

(c) A state agency may not use appropriated money to contract with, award a grant to, or otherwise provide financial support to a nonprofit organization that has made a public statement calling for or has otherwise advocated for the adoption by this state or a political subdivision of this state of a policy of managed retreat.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.