

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the powers and duties of the East Montgomery County  
3 Improvement District; providing authority to impose a tax.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 16(c), Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
6 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) Except as provided in Section 30 of this Act, the [~~The~~]  
8 district may not impose ad valorem taxes on property in the  
9 district.

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
11 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 16A to read as  
12 follows:

13 Sec. 16A. GENERAL AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE TAXES. The district  
14 may impose for any district purpose any tax authorized by this Act.

15 SECTION 3. Section 22(a), Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
16 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The board by order may call an election to adopt, change  
18 the rate of, or abolish a sales and use tax, provided that the board  
19 may not call an election to abolish a sales and use tax or to reduce  
20 the rate of the sales and use tax below the amount pledged to secure  
21 payment of any outstanding district debt or contractual obligation  
22 while any district debt or contractual obligation remains  
23 outstanding. The election may be held at the same time and in  
24 conjunction with a confirmation or directors election.

1 SECTION 4. Section 23(a), Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
2 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Chapter 323, Tax Code, to the extent not inconsistent  
4 with this Act, governs the application, collection, and  
5 administration of the sales and use tax under this Act, except  
6 Sections 323.401 through 323.406, and 323.505, Tax Code, do not  
7 apply. Subtitles A and B, Title 2, and Chapter 151, Tax Code,  
8 govern the administration and enforcement of the sales and use  
9 taxes under this Act.

10 SECTION 5. Section 24, Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
11 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

12 Sec. 24. EFFECTIVE DATE OF TAX OR TAX CHANGE. The adoption  
13 of a sales and use tax rate or a change in the sales and use tax rate  
14 takes effect after the expiration of the first complete calendar  
15 quarter occurring after the date on which the comptroller receives  
16 a notice of the results of the election.

17 SECTION 6. Section 26, Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
18 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

19 Sec. 26. ABOLITION OF TAX RATE. (a) Except as provided by  
20 Subsection (b), the [The] board by order may abolish the local sales  
21 and use tax rate without an election.

22 (b) The board may not abolish the local sales and use tax  
23 while any district debt or contractual obligation remains  
24 outstanding if any sales and use tax revenue is pledged to secure  
25 payment of the outstanding debt or obligation.

26 SECTION 7. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
27 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 29 to read as

1 follows:

2 Sec. 29. HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX. (a) In this section,  
3 "hotel" has the meaning assigned by Section 156.001, Tax Code.

4 (b) For purposes of this section, a reference in Subchapter  
5 A, Chapter 352, Tax Code, to a county is a reference to the district  
6 and a reference in Subchapter A, Chapter 352, Tax Code, to the  
7 county's officers or governing body is a reference to the board.

8 (c) Chapter 352, Tax Code, governs a hotel occupancy tax  
9 authorized by this section, including the collection of the tax.

10 (d) The board by order may impose, repeal, increase, or  
11 decrease the rate of a tax on a person who, under a lease,  
12 concession, permit, right of access, license, contract, or  
13 agreement, pays for the use or possession or for the right to the  
14 use or possession of a room that:

15 (1) is in a hotel located wholly or partly in the  
16 district;

17 (2) costs \$2 or more each day; and

18 (3) is ordinarily used for sleeping.

19 (e) The tax rate may not exceed the maximum rate allowed  
20 under Section 352.003, Tax Code.

21 (f) This section does not apply to a hotel located wholly or  
22 partly in the city of Splendora as the boundaries of that city  
23 existed on April 1, 2007.

24 SECTION 8. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
25 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 29A to read as  
26 follows:

27 Sec. 29A. USE OF HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX. (a) The district

1 may use the proceeds from a hotel occupancy tax imposed under  
2 Section 29 of this Act for any district purpose and for any purpose  
3 described by Section 351.101 or 352.1015, Tax Code, to the extent  
4 the board considers appropriate.

5 (b) During each interval of three calendar years following  
6 the date on which a hotel occupancy tax imposed under Section 29 of  
7 this Act is initially collected, the board may not apply an annual  
8 average of more than 10 percent of the amount of tax collected under  
9 that section, excluding any interest earnings or investment profits  
10 and after a deduction for the costs of imposing and collecting the  
11 taxes, for the administrative expenses of the district or a  
12 district purpose other than the costs of:

13 (1) advertising and promoting tourism;

14 (2) business development and commerce, including the  
15 costs of planning, designing, constructing, acquiring, leasing,  
16 financing, owning, operating, maintaining, managing, improving,  
17 repairing, rehabilitating, or reconstructing improvement projects  
18 for:

19 (A) conferences, conventions, and exhibitions;

20 (B) manufacturer, consumer, or trade shows; and

21 (C) civic, community, or institutional events;

22 (3) encouraging and promoting the arts, including  
23 instrumental and vocal music, dance, drama, folk art, creative  
24 writing, architecture, design and related fields, painting,  
25 sculpture, photography, graphic arts and crafts, motion pictures,  
26 radio, television, tape and sound recording, and other arts related  
27 to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of

1 these major art forms;

2 (4) historical restoration and preservation projects;

3 and

4 (5) activities, advertising, solicitations, and  
5 promotional programs to encourage tourists to visit preserved  
6 historic sites or museums.

7 (c) For purposes of this section, a reference:

8 (1) in Subchapter B, Chapter 351, Tax Code, to a  
9 municipality is a reference to the district and a reference to the  
10 municipality's officers or governing body is a reference to the  
11 board; and

12 (2) in Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Tax Code, to a county  
13 is a reference to the district and a reference to the county's  
14 officers or governing body is a reference to the board.

15 SECTION 9. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
16 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 30 to read as  
17 follows:

18 Sec. 30. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES. (a) As used in this  
19 section:

20 (1) "Development zone" means an economic development  
21 zone created by the district under this section.

22 (2) "Governing body" means the board of directors of a  
23 development zone.

24 (3) "Project" means the development or construction of  
25 a building, structure, facility, or other improvement on a parcel  
26 or tract in a development zone, or an expansion, enlargement,  
27 replacement, or relocation of a building, structure, facility, or

1 other improvement in a development zone. The term includes a  
2 contractual obligation to reimburse a developer for money spent by  
3 the developer in the construction, development, expansion,  
4 enlargement, replacement, or relocation of a building, structure,  
5 facility, or other improvement in a development zone.

6 (b) The board, on its own motion or on receipt of a petition  
7 signed by the owners of all real property in a defined area of the  
8 district consisting of 25 or more contiguous acres of land, by  
9 resolution may create, designate, describe, assign a name to, and  
10 appoint the governing body for a development zone in the district to  
11 promote development or redevelopment of the area, if the board  
12 finds that the creation of the zone will further the public purposes  
13 of:

14 (1) the development and diversification of the economy  
15 of the district and the state;

16 (2) the elimination of unemployment or  
17 underemployment in the district and the state;

18 (3) the development or expansion of transportation or  
19 commerce in the district and the state; or

20 (4) the promotion and stimulation of business,  
21 commercial, and economic activity in the district and the state.

22 (c) Before designating a development zone, the board must  
23 prepare a preliminary financing plan for the zone that includes:

24 (1) estimated project costs, including administrative  
25 expenses;

26 (2) a description of the kind, number, and location of  
27 all proposed improvement projects in the zone;

1           (3) the estimated amount of:

2                   (A) bonded indebtedness to be incurred; or

3                   (B) the financial obligation of any other  
4 contractual obligation to be incurred;

5           (4) a description of the methods of financing and  
6 expected sources of revenue to pay for the costs of proposed  
7 improvement projects; and

8           (5) the projected duration of the zone.

9           (d) A development zone may not be created if more than 10  
10 percent of the property in the proposed zone, other than property  
11 that is publicly owned, is used or planned for use for residential  
12 purposes. For purposes of this subsection, property is used for  
13 residential purposes if the property is occupied by a house that has  
14 fewer than five living units.

15           (e) A resolution designating an area as a development zone  
16 must:

17                   (1) describe the boundaries of the zone sufficiently  
18 to identify with reasonable certainty the territory included;

19                   (2) provide an effective date for the creation of the  
20 zone;

21                   (3) provide a date for termination of the zone;

22                   (4) assign a number to the name of the zone, which must  
23 be "East Montgomery County Improvement District Economic  
24 Development Zone No. \_\_\_\_";

25                   (5) adopt a preliminary financing plan for the zone;

26                   (6) provide the number of directors of the governing  
27 body of the zone, which must be at least five; and

1           (7) appoint the governing body for the zone or  
2 authorize the board to serve ex officio as the governing body of the  
3 zone.

4           (f) Upon approval by the board of a resolution designating  
5 an area as a development zone, the district shall call a  
6 confirmation election to confirm the establishment of the zone in  
7 the manner prescribed by Section 49.102, Water Code.

8           (g) A member of the governing body who is not a district  
9 director shall be appointed for a term of two years, except that the  
10 appointment of the initial members of the governing body may  
11 provide for some terms to be limited to one year in order to achieve  
12 staggered terms of office. The district by appointment shall fill a  
13 vacancy on the governing body of the zone for the unexpired portion  
14 of the term. A member who is also a district director shall serve a  
15 term concurrent with the director's term on the district board.

16           (h) A member of a governing body must be at least 18 years of  
17 age, a citizen of the state, and a person described in Section 12(b)  
18 of this Act. A member of the board of directors of the district may  
19 be appointed to the governing body. Each member must qualify for  
20 office by subscribing to the constitutional oath of office for  
21 public officers and furnishing a fidelity bond issued by a  
22 responsible surety in the amount of \$10,000 in favor of the  
23 development zone to secure faithful performance of the member's  
24 duties.

25           (i) Following appointment and qualification, the governing  
26 body of the development zone shall meet and organize by electing a  
27 president, a vice president, a secretary-treasurer, and other



1 officers the governing body considers appropriate. If the  
2 governing body of the development zone is composed entirely of  
3 directors of the district, each director of the development zone  
4 holds the same office the director holds as a director of the  
5 district.

6 (j) The boundaries of a development zone may be reduced or  
7 enlarged in the manner provided by this section for creation of a  
8 zone, except that the boundaries may not be reduced to less than 25  
9 contiguous acres. A confirmation election is not required for an  
10 enlargement if:

11 (1) all landowners of the area proposed to be added  
12 consent to the enlargement and the tax authorization in the zone;  
13 and

14 (2) the enlarged area does not have any registered  
15 voters who reside in the area.

16 (k) A development zone created by the district under this  
17 section is a political and corporate body and a political  
18 subdivision of the state, separate from the district. The  
19 governing body of the zone may exercise, or by order may delegate to  
20 the district, any powers and duties relating to the financing and  
21 implementation of the project plan for the zone, including the  
22 power and authority to:

23 (1) issue bonds or notes in the name of the zone in the  
24 same manner as Chapter 375, Local Government Code, provides for a  
25 municipal management district;

26 (2) impose an ad valorem tax, assessment, or other  
27 charge in the zone, in the same manner as Chapter 375, Local

1 Government Code, provides for a municipal management district, and  
2 as authorized by Subsection (o) of this section if the ad valorem  
3 tax has been approved by the voters in the development zone at an  
4 election held for that purpose; and

5 (3) impose a sales and use tax, as authorized by  
6 Subsection (n) of this section, if the sales and use tax has been  
7 approved by the voters in the development zone at an election held  
8 for that purpose.

9 (1) The board and the governing body each may enter into any  
10 agreement considered necessary or convenient to implement a project  
11 plan and development zone financing plan and achieve their  
12 purposes. An agreement may provide for the regulation or  
13 restriction of the use of land by imposing conditions,  
14 restrictions, or covenants that run with the land. An agreement may  
15 provide that a restriction adopted by the governing body continues  
16 in effect after the termination of the development zone. The  
17 district and the development zone may agree that the district will  
18 provide administration, management, investment, accounting, and  
19 other services for the zone in consideration for an administrative  
20 fee not to exceed five percent of the gross revenues of the  
21 development zone and for the benefits received by the district  
22 through the implementation of the project plan for the zone. The  
23 district may pledge all or part of the proceeds of its sales and use  
24 tax to secure and pay any bonds or other financial obligations of a  
25 development zone on approval of the board subject to Section 30A of  
26 this Act.

27 (m) Subject to approval by resolution of the district board,

1 the governing body shall prepare and adopt, and may amend, a project  
2 plan and a development zone financing plan for the development  
3 zone.

4 (n) If approved at an election by a majority of the voters in  
5 the development zone voting in an election held for that purpose,  
6 the governing body may adopt or repeal a sales and use tax of not  
7 more than two percent less the amount of the sales and use tax  
8 approved by the district voters under Section 21 of this Act. An  
9 election on the adoption or repeal of the maximum rate of sales and  
10 use tax may be held by the governing body as provided by Section 22  
11 of this Act as applied to a development zone. An election to adopt  
12 the sales and use tax authorized by this section may be held in  
13 conjunction with the confirmation election described by Subsection  
14 (f) of this section. After adoption at an election, the governing  
15 body may impose any portion of the sales and use tax, in increments  
16 of not less than one-eighth of one percent, for the benefit of the  
17 zone, by order of the governing body. The sales and use tax is in  
18 addition to the limited sales and use tax authorized and imposed by  
19 the district under Section 21 of this Act. If a political  
20 subdivision, including a municipality, imposes a sales and use tax  
21 in the development zone, the sales and use tax authorized by this  
22 section is reduced as of the date the development zone authorized  
23 the sales and use tax so that the combined total of all local sales  
24 and use taxes imposed in the development zone does not exceed two  
25 percent. The sales and use tax becomes effective on the first day  
26 of the calendar quarter following the date the comptroller receives  
27 written notice of the imposition of the tax.

1           (o) If approved at an election by a majority of the voters in  
2 the development zone voting in an election held for that purpose,  
3 the governing body may authorize a tax on all taxable property in a  
4 development zone created wholly or partly in the boundaries of East  
5 Montgomery County Utility District No. 5, 6, or 7, or Valley Ranch  
6 Municipal Utility District No. 1 at a rate not to exceed 10 cents on  
7 each \$100 valuation as determined by the Montgomery County  
8 Appraisal District. The election may be held in conjunction with  
9 the confirmation election held under Subsection (f) of this  
10 section.

11           SECTION 10. Section 30A(b), Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
12 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is amended to read as follows:

13           (b) In addition to the sources described in Subchapter J,  
14 Chapter 375, Local Government Code, the bonds issued by the  
15 district may be secured and made payable, wholly or partly, by a  
16 pledge of all or [~~any~~] part of the net proceeds the district  
17 receives from:

18           (1) a specified portion of not more than 75 percent  
19 [~~one-half~~] of the maximum sales and use tax amount authorized and  
20 approved by voters of the district under Section 22 of this Act;

21           (2) a specified portion of not more than 90 percent of  
22 the maximum sales and use tax imposed by a development zone;

23           (3) an ad valorem tax imposed by a development zone;

24           (4) a hotel occupancy tax;

25           (5) an event admissions tax;

26           (6) an event parking tax; and

27           (7) any other district revenue.

1 SECTION 11. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
2 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 33 to read as  
3 follows:

4 Sec. 33. COMMUNITY VENUES. (a) In this section and  
5 Sections 33A and 33B of this Act:

6 (1) "Venue" means a convention center facility or  
7 related improvement such as a convention center, civic center,  
8 civic center building, civic center hotel, auditorium, theater,  
9 opera house, music hall, exhibition hall, rehearsal hall, park,  
10 zoological park, museum, aquarium, or plaza.

11 (2) "Community venue project" or "venue project" means  
12 a venue and related infrastructure that is planned, acquired,  
13 established, developed, constructed, or renovated under this  
14 section.

15 (b) The district by resolution may provide for the planning,  
16 acquisition, establishment, development, construction, or  
17 renovation of a venue project.

18 (c) The resolution must designate each venue project and  
19 each method of financing authorized by this Act that the district  
20 intends to use to finance a project. A resolution may designate  
21 more than one method of financing.

22 (d) The district may contract with a public or private  
23 person to plan, acquire, establish, develop, construct, or renovate  
24 a venue project.

25 (e) The district shall establish by resolution a fund known  
26 as the community venue project fund. The district shall establish  
27 separate accounts in the fund for the various revenue sources.

1           (f) The district shall deposit into the community venue  
2 project fund:

3                   (1) the proceeds of any tax imposed by the district  
4 under Sections 33A and 33B of this Act;

5                   (2) all revenue from the sale of bonds or other  
6 obligations by the district under this Act; and

7                   (3) any other money required by law to be deposited in  
8 the fund.

9           (g) The district may use money in the community venue  
10 project fund to:

11                   (1) reimburse or pay the costs of planning, acquiring,  
12 establishing, developing, constructing, or renovating one or more  
13 venue projects in the district;

14                   (2) pay the principal of, interest on, and other costs  
15 relating to bonds or other obligations issued by the district to  
16 refund bonds, notes, or other obligations;

17                   (3) pay the costs of operating or maintaining one or  
18 more venue projects; or

19                   (4) pay the administrative costs of the district  
20 associated with the operation and administration of one or more  
21 venue projects.

22           (h) Money deposited into the community venue project fund is  
23 the property of the district.

24           (i) The district may issue bonds, including revenue bonds  
25 and refunding bonds, or other obligations to pay the costs of the  
26 venue project.

27           SECTION 12. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,

1 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 33A to read as  
2 follows:

3 Sec. 33A. EVENT ADMISSIONS TAX. (a) The district by order  
4 may impose a tax on each ticket sold as admission to an event held at  
5 a venue project in the district for which the district has issued  
6 bonds or undertaken a contractual obligation to reimburse costs  
7 expended to plan, acquire, establish, develop, construct, or  
8 renovate the venue project.

9 (b) The district may not impose the tax under this section  
10 for admission to an event at a venue that is not a community venue  
11 project or for which the district has not issued bonds or entered  
12 into a contractual obligation to reimburse costs expended to plan,  
13 acquire, establish, develop, construct, or renovate the venue  
14 project.

15 (c) The district may impose a tax under this section only if  
16 a venue project is or will be located in the district.

17 (d) The tax authorized by this section is imposed at the tax  
18 rate on each ticket sold as admission to an event held at a venue.

19 (e) The amount of the tax may be imposed at any uniform  
20 percentage not to exceed 10 percent of the price of the ticket sold  
21 as admission to an event held at a venue.

22 (f) The district by order may increase, repeal, or decrease  
23 the rate of the tax imposed under this section.

24 (g) The district by order may require the owner or lessee of  
25 a venue project in the district to collect the tax for the benefit  
26 of the district.

27 (h) An owner or lessee required to collect the tax under

1 this section shall add the tax to the admissions price, and the tax  
2 is a part of the admissions price, a debt owed to the owner or lessee  
3 of a venue project by the person admitted, and recoverable at law in  
4 the same manner as the admissions price.

5 (i) The tax imposed by this section is not an occupation tax  
6 imposed on the owner or lessee of the venue project.

7 (j) A tax imposed under this section or a change in a tax  
8 rate takes effect on the date prescribed by the order imposing the  
9 tax or changing the rate.

10 (k) Except as provided by Subsection (l), the district may  
11 impose a tax under this section only if the district issues bonds or  
12 enters into a contractual obligation under Section 33 of this Act.

13 (l) The district may continue to impose the tax after any  
14 financial obligations have been fulfilled if the tax revenue is  
15 used as authorized by Section 6(c) or 33(g) of this Act.

16 (m) A person required to collect a tax imposed under this  
17 section shall report and send the taxes to the district as provided  
18 by the district.

19 (n) The district by order may prescribe penalties,  
20 including interest charges, for failure to keep records required by  
21 the district, to report when required, or to pay the tax when due.  
22 The district may bring suit against a person who fails to collect a  
23 tax under this section and to pay it over to the district as  
24 required.

25 (o) The district by order may permit a person who is  
26 required to collect a tax under this section to retain a percentage  
27 of the amount collected and required to be reported as



1 reimbursement to the person for the costs of collecting the tax.  
2 The district may provide that the person may retain the amount only  
3 if the person pays the tax and files reports as required by the  
4 district.

5 SECTION 13. Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th Legislature,  
6 Regular Session, 1997, is amended by adding Section 33B to read as  
7 follows:

8 Sec. 33B. EVENT PARKING TAX. (a) The district by order may  
9 impose a tax on each motor vehicle parking in a parking facility of  
10 a community venue project.

11 (b) The district may impose the tax during any time the  
12 parking facility is being used.

13 (c) The district by order may provide that the tax is  
14 imposed at a flat amount on each parked motor vehicle or is imposed  
15 as a percentage of the amount charged for event parking by the owner  
16 or lessee of the parking facility.

17 (d) Regardless of the method of imposition, the amount of  
18 the tax may not exceed the amount allowed by Section 334.202(b),  
19 Local Government Code.

20 (e) The district by order may increase, repeal, or decrease  
21 the rate of the tax imposed under this section.

22 (f) The district by order may require the owner or lessee of  
23 a parking facility to collect the tax for the benefit of the  
24 district.

25 (g) An owner or lessee required to collect the tax under  
26 this section shall add the tax to the parking charge, and the tax is  
27 a part of the parking charge, a debt owed to the parking facility

1 owner or lessee by the person parking, and recoverable at law in the  
2 same manner as the parking charge.

3 (h) The tax imposed by this section is not an occupation tax  
4 imposed on the owner or lessee of the parking facility.

5 (i) A tax imposed under this section or a change in the tax  
6 rate takes effect on the date prescribed by the order imposing the  
7 tax or changing the rate.

8 (j) Except as provided by Subsection (k), the district may  
9 impose a tax under this section only if the district issues bonds or  
10 enters into other contractual obligations under Section 33 of this  
11 Act.

12 (k) The district may continue to impose the tax after any  
13 financial obligations have been fulfilled if the tax revenue is  
14 used as authorized by Section 6(c) or 33(g) of this Act.

15 (l) A person required to collect a tax imposed under this  
16 section shall report and send the taxes to the district as provided  
17 by the district.

18 (m) The district by order may prescribe penalties,  
19 including interest charges, for failure to keep records required by  
20 the district, to report when required, or to pay the tax when due.  
21 The district may bring suit against a person who fails to collect a  
22 tax under this section and to pay it over to the district as  
23 required.

24 (n) The district by order may permit a person who is  
25 required to collect a tax under this section to retain a percentage  
26 of the amount collected and required to be reported as  
27 reimbursement to the person for the costs of collecting the tax.

1 The district may provide that the person may retain the amount only  
2 if the person pays the tax and files reports as required by the  
3 district.

4 SECTION 14. Section 22(b), Chapter 1316, Acts of the 75th  
5 Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, is repealed.

6 SECTION 15. The legislature finds that:

7 (1) proper and legal notice of the intention to  
8 introduce this Act, setting out the general substance of this Act,  
9 has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a copy of  
10 this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies, officials,  
11 or entities to which they are required to be furnished by the  
12 constitution and other laws of this state, including to the  
13 governor, who has submitted the notice and this Act to the  
14 commission; and

15 (2) all requirements of the constitution and laws of  
16 this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with  
17 respect to notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are  
18 fulfilled and accomplished.

19 SECTION 16. This Act takes effect immediately if it  
20 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
21 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.  
22 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate  
23 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

*Nancy Seuhurst*

President of the Senate

*Jim Caddick*

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4015 was passed by the House on May 11, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

*Robert Haney*  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4015 was passed by the Senate on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

*Daisy Spaw*  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 15 JUN 07

Date

*Rick Perry*  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
6 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 15 2007  
*Roger Williams*  
Secretary of State