

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the eligibility for exemption from ad valorem taxation
3 of public property used for certain religious purposes.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 11.20, Tax Code, is amended by amending
6 Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (h) and (i) to read as
7 follows:

8 (d) Use of property that qualifies for the exemption
9 prescribed by Subsection (a)(1) [~~Subdivision (1)~~] or (2) or by
10 Subsection (h)(1) [~~of Subsection (a) of this section~~] for
11 occasional secular purposes other than religious worship does not
12 result in loss of the exemption if the primary use of the property
13 is for religious worship and all income from the other use is
14 devoted exclusively to the maintenance and development of the
15 property as a place of religious worship.

16 (h) Property owned by this state or a political subdivision
17 of this state, including a leasehold or other possessory interest
18 in the property, that is held or occupied by an organization that
19 qualifies as a religious organization as provided by Subsection (c)
20 is entitled to an exemption from taxation if the property:

21 (1) is used by the organization primarily as a place of
22 regular religious worship and is reasonably necessary for engaging
23 in religious worship; or

24 (2) meets the qualifications for an exemption under

1 Subsection (a)(5).

2 (i) For purposes of the exemption provided by Subsection
3 (h), the religious organization may apply for the exemption and
4 take other action relating to the exemption as if the organization
5 owned the property.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2004, and
7 applies only to an ad valorem tax year that begins on or after that
8 date.

David Newbust

President of the Senate

Tom Cobden

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2383 was passed by the House on April 25, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2383 was passed by the Senate on May 8, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0

Letsy Spaul

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

23 MAJ '03

Date

Rick Peery

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
2:55 pm O'CLOCK

Ann Shea
MAY 23 2003
Secretary of State