

CHAPTER 1350

S.B. No. 1317

AN ACT

relating to persons authorized to perform a marriage ceremony.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2.201, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2.201. EXPIRATION OF LICENSE. If a marriage ceremony has not been conducted before the 90th [~~31st~~] day after the date the license is issued, the marriage license expires.

SECTION 2. Section 2.202, Family Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

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

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

(2) a Jewish rabbi;

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

(4) a justice of the supreme court, judge of the court of criminal appeals, justice of the courts of appeals, judge of the district, county, and probate courts, judge of the county courts at law, judge of the courts of domestic relations, judge of the juvenile courts, retired justice or judge of those courts, justice

1 of the peace, retired justice of the peace, judge of a municipal  
2 court, retired judge of a municipal court, or judge or magistrate of  
3 a federal court of this state; and

4 (5) a retired judge or magistrate of a federal court of  
5 this state.

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

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

16 SECTION 3. Section 2.201, Family Code, as amended by this  
17 Act, applies only to a marriage license that is issued on or after  
18 the effective date of this Act. A marriage license issued before  
19 the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on  
20 the date the license was issued, and the former law is continued in  
21 effect for that purpose.

22 SECTION 4. Section 2.202, Family Code, as amended by this  
23 Act, applies only to a marriage ceremony that is conducted on or  
24 after the effective date of this Act. A marriage ceremony conducted  
25 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in  
26 effect on the date the ceremony was conducted, and the former law is  
27 continued in effect for that purpose.

1 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013. \_\_\_\_\_

David Newhurst  
President of the Senate

Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1317 passed the Senate on April 24, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 25, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0. \_\_\_\_\_

Patsy Span  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1317 passed the House, with amendment, on May 22, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 148, Nays 0, two present not voting. \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Honey  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

14 JUNE '13

Date

Rick Perry  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
10pm O'CLOCK

JUN 14 2013

[Signature]  
Secretary of State