CHAPTER 100

S.B. No. 849

1	AN ACT
2	relating to social purposes of a for-profit corporation and the
. 3	consideration of social purposes and other interests by officers
4	and directors of a for-profit corporation.
5	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
6	SECTION 1. Section 1.002, Business Organizations Code, is
7	amended by adding Subdivision (82-a) to read as follows:
8	(82-a) "Social purposes" means one or more purposes of
9	a for-profit corporation that are specified in the corporation's
10	certificate of formation and consist of promoting one or more
11	positive impacts on society or the environment or of minimizing one
12	or more adverse impacts of the corporation's activities on society
13	or the environment. Those impacts may include:
14	(A) providing low-income or underserved
15	individuals or communities with beneficial products or services;
16	(B) promoting economic opportunity for
17	individuals or communities beyond the creation of jobs in the
18	normal course of business;
19	(C) preserving the environment;
20	(D) improving human health;
21	(E) promoting the arts, sciences, or advancement
22	of knowledge;
23	(F) increasing the flow of capital to entities
24	with a social purpose; and

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- 1 (G) conferring any particular benefit on society
- 2 or the environment.
- 3 SECTION 2. Section 3.007, Business Organizations Code, is
- 4 amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:
- 5 (d) Notwithstanding Section 2.008, a for-profit corporation
- 6 may include one or more social purposes in addition to the purpose
- 7 or purposes required to be stated in the corporation's certificate
- 8 of formation by Section 3.005(a)(3). The corporation may also
- 9 include in the certificate of formation a provision that the board
- 10 of directors and officers of the corporation shall consider any
- 11 social purpose specified in the certificate of formation in
- 12 discharging the duties of directors or officers under this code or
- 13 <u>otherwise</u>.
- SECTION 3. Subsection (a), Section 21.101, Business
- 15 Organizations Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 16 (a) The shareholders of a corporation may enter into an
- 17 agreement that:
- 18 (1) restricts the discretion or powers of the board of
- 19 directors;
- 20 (2) eliminates the board of directors and authorizes
- 21 the business and affairs of the corporation to be managed, wholly or
- 22 partly, by one or more of its shareholders or other persons;
- 23 (3) establishes the individuals who shall serve as
- 24 directors or officers of the corporation;
- 25 (4) determines the term of office, manner of selection
- 26 or removal, or terms or conditions of employment of a director,
- 27 officer, or other employee of the corporation, regardless of the

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- length of employment;
- 2 (5) governs the authorization or making of
- 3 distributions whether in proportion to ownership of shares, subject
- 4 to Section 21.303;
- 5 (6) determines the manner in which profits and losses
- 6 will be apportioned;
- 7 (7) governs, in general or with regard to specific
- 8 matters, the exercise or division of voting power by and between the
- 9 shareholders, directors, or other persons, including use of
- 10 disproportionate voting rights or director proxies;
- 11 (8) establishes the terms of an agreement for the
- 12 transfer or use of property or for the provision of services between
- 13 the corporation and another person, including a shareholder,
- 14 director, officer, or employee of the corporation;
- 15 (9) authorizes arbitration or grants authority to a
- 16 shareholder or other person to resolve any issue about which there
- 17 is a deadlock among the directors, shareholders, or other persons
- 18 authorized to manage the corporation;
- 19 (10) requires winding up and termination of the
- 20 corporation at the request of one or more shareholders or on the
- 21 occurrence of a specified event or contingency, in which case the
- 22 winding up and termination of the corporation will proceed as if all
- 23 of the shareholders had consented in writing to the winding up and
- 24 termination as provided by Subchapter K; [or]
- 25 (11) with regard to one or more social purposes
- 26 specified in the corporation's certificate of formation, governs
- 27 the exercise of corporate powers, the management of the operations

- 1 and affairs of the corporation, the approval by shareholders or
- 2 other persons of corporate actions, or the relationship among the
- 3 shareholders, the directors, and the corporation; or
- 4 (12) otherwise governs the exercise of corporate
- 5 powers, the management of the business and affairs of the
- 6 corporation, or the relationship among the shareholders, the
- 7 directors, and the corporation as if the corporation were a
- 8 partnership or in a manner that would otherwise be appropriate only
- 9 among partners and not contrary to public policy.
- 10 SECTION 4. Section 21.401, Business Organizations Code, is
- amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (c), (d),
- 12 and (e) to read as follows:
- 13 (b) In discharging the duties of director under this code or
- 14 otherwise and in considering the best interests of the corporation,
- 15 a director is entitled to [may] consider the long-term and
- 16 short-term interests of the corporation and the shareholders of the
- 17 corporation, including the possibility that those interests may be
- 18 best served by the continued independence of the corporation.
- (c) In discharging the duties of a director under this code
- 20 or otherwise, a director is entitled to consider any social
- 21 purposes specified in the corporation's certificate of formation.
- 22 (d) Subject to direction by the board of directors of the
- 23 corporation, in discharging the duties of an officer under this
- 24 code or otherwise, an officer is entitled to consider:
- 25 (1) the long-term and short-term interests of the
- 26 corporation and of the corporation's shareholders, including the
- 27 possibility that those interests may be best served by the

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- 1 continued independence of the corporation; and
- 2 (2) any social purposes specified in the corporation's
- 3 certificate of formation.
- 4 (e) Nothing in this section prohibits or limits a director
- 5 or officer of a corporation that does not have a social purpose
- 6 specified as a purpose in the corporation's certificate of
- 7 formation from considering, approving, or taking an action that
- 8 promotes or has the effect of promoting a social, charitable, or
- 9 <u>environmental purpose</u>.
- 10 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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President of the Senate peaker of the House
I hereby certify that S.B. No. 849 passed the Senate on
March 27, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0. Secretary of the Sehate
I hereby certify that S.B. No. 849 passed the House on
May 2, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present
not voting.
Chief Clerk of the House Approved:
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FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE O'CLOCK

Secretary of State