relating to the rights of certain religious organizations and 2 3 individuals relating to a marriage that violates a sincerely held 4 religious belief. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: 5 6 SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Family Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows: 7 8 SUBCHAPTER G. FREEDOM OF RELIGION WITH RESPECT TO RECOGNIZING OR 9 PERFORMING CERTAIN MARRIAGES 10 Sec. 2.601. RIGHTS OF CERTAIN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS. A religious organization, an organization supervised or controlled 11 by or in connection with a religious organization, an individual 12 employed by a religious organization while acting in the scope of 13 that employment, or a clergy or minister may not be required to 14 15 solemnize any marriage or provide services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges for a purpose related to the 16 17 solemnization, formation, or celebration of any marriage if the action would cause the organization or individual to violate a 18 sincerely held religious belief. 19 Sec. 2.602. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION 20 PROHIBITED. A refusal to provide services, accommodations, 21 22 facilities, goods, or privileges under Section 2.601 is not the basis for a civil or criminal cause of action or any other action by 23

AN ACT

1

24

this state or a political subdivision of this state to penalize or

S.B. No. 2065

1	withhold benefits or privileges, including tax exemptions or
2	governmental contracts, grants, or licenses, from any protected
3	organization or individual.
4	SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5	a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6	provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7	Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8	Act takes effect September 1, 2015.
	President of the Senate Speaker of the House
	I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2065 passed the Senate on
	May 11, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 21, Nays 9.
	Secretary of the Senate
	I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2065 passed the House on
	May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, one
	present not voting.
	Chief Clerk of the House
	Approved:
	Date

Governor