

## CHAPTER 649

## S.B. No. 967

An Act relating to repealing the requirement that a city have a population of 12,000 or less inhabitants as a condition for annexing an area less than 500 feet wide and two sides of which are contiguous with the boundaries of such city; providing rules governing annexation for limited or full purpose; amending the Municipal Annexation Act, as amended (Article 970a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), by amending Subsections (a), Section 7B-1 and Subsection C, Section 10.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

**SECTION 1.** Subsections (a), Section 7B-1, Municipal Annexation Act, as amended (Article 970a, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas), are amended to read as follows:

“(a) No home rule or general law city may annex any area, whether publicly or privately owned, unless the width of such area at its narrowest point is at least 500 feet, except that a city [~~having a population of twelve thousand (12,000) inhabitants or less~~] may annex an area

that is less than 500 feet in width if the corporate limits of the city are contiguous with the property on at least two sides; and except that adjacent cities may accomplish mutually agreeable adjustments in their boundaries of areas that are less than 500 feet in width. *Provided, further, that the prohibition in this section against annexing an area less than 500 feet in width*

~~"(a) No home rule or general law city may annex any area, whether publicly or privately owned, unless the width of such area at its narrowest point is at least 500 feet, except that a city having a population of twelve thousand (12,000) inhabitants or less may annex an area that is less than 500 feet in width if the corporate limits of the city are contiguous with the property on at least two sides; provided, however, that the provisions of this paragraph (a)] shall not apply to any annexation initiated upon written petition of the owner or owners or of a majority of the qualified voters of the area to be annexed."~~

**SECTION 2.** Subsection C, Section 10, Municipal Annexation Act, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 842, Acts of the 67th Legislature, Regular Session, 1981 (Article 970a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

"C. (1) In no event shall a service plan provide fewer services or a lower level of services in the area to be annexed than were in existence in that area at the time immediately preceding the annexation. However, it is not the intent of this Act to require that a uniform level of services be provided to all areas of the city where differing characteristics of topography, land utilization, and population density are considered as a sufficient basis for providing differing service levels. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit or repeal home-rule charter provisions providing for annexation for limited purposes other than ad valorem taxation.

*"(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no city may amend its charter to authorize annexations for limited purposes. Provided, further, the area of a city's extraterritorial jurisdiction may not be extended by any annexations except for full purposes.*

*"(3) Subdivision (2) of this subsection expires June 1, 1987."*

**SECTION 3.** The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on April 3, 1985, by a viva-voce vote; May 27, 1985, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 27, 1985, House granted request of the Senate; May 27, 1985, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by a viva-voce vote; passed the House, with amendments, on May 21, 1985, by a non-record vote; May 27, 1985, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 27, 1985, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

Approved: June 14, 1985

Effective: August 26, 1985