

CHAPTER 996

H.B. No. 795

AN ACT

relating to the contracting authority and procedures of certain hospital districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 281.051, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) as follows:

*(d) The board shall encourage and promote participation by all sectors of the business community, including small businesses and businesses owned by members of a minority group or by women, in the process by which the district enters into contracts. The board shall develop a plan for the district to identify and remove barriers that do not have a definite or objective relationship to quality or competence and that unfairly discriminate against small businesses and businesses owned by members of a minority or by women. These barriers may include contracting procedures and contract specifications or conditions.*

SECTION 2. 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, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on April 15, 1993, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 18, 1993: Yeas 30, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Approved June 19, 1993.

Effective Aug. 30, 1993, 90 days after date of adjournment.