

CHAPTER 624

S.B. No. 274

AN ACT

relating to restroom facilities in places where the public congregates

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 341, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 341.068 to read as follows:

Sec. 341.068. RESTROOM AVAILABILITY WHERE THE PUBLIC CONGREGATES.

(a) *Publicly and privately owned facilities where the public congregates shall be equipped with sufficient temporary or permanent restrooms to meet the needs of the public at peak hours.*

(b) *The board shall adopt rules to implement Subsection (a), including a rule that in providing sufficient restrooms a ratio of not less than 2:1 women's-to-men's restrooms or other minimum standards established in consultation with the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners shall be maintained if the use of the restrooms is designated by gender. The rules shall apply to facilities where the public congregates and on which construction is started on or after January 1, 1994, or on which structural alterations, repairs, or improvements exceeding 50 percent of the entire facility are undertaken on or after January 1, 1994.*

(c) *In this section:*

(1) *"Facilities where the public congregates" means sports and entertainment arenas, stadiums, community and convention halls, specialty event centers, and amusement facilities. The term does not include hotels, churches, restaurants, bowling centers, public or private elementary or secondary schools, or historic buildings.*

(2) *"Restroom" means toilet, chemical toilet, or water closet.*

(d) *The board may adopt rules consistent with Subsection (c)(1) to define "facilities where the public congregates."*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993.

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 March 18, 1993, by a viva-voce vote; May 19, 1993, Senate refused to concur in House amendment and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 22, 1993, House granted request of the Senate; May 28, 1993, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by a viva-voce vote; passed the House, with amendment, on May 18, 1993, by a non-record vote; May 22, 1993,

House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee;
May 27, 1993, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

Approved June 10, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.