

HB 891 -- SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

SPONSOR: Rowland

This bill prohibits settlement agreements in certain civil actions, specified in the bill, from containing provisions preventing disclosure of factual information related to the action.

Additionally, a person obtaining a claim or final judgment in any of the types of civil action specified in the bill shall not be offered or required to sign any confidentiality agreement stating that he or she shall not discuss his or her claim or final judgment, or that he or she waives any right to money obtained if he or she does discuss the claim or final judgment.

The provisions of this bill shall not preclude an agreement preventing the disclosure of any medical or personal identifying information regarding the victim of the offense or of any information revealing the nature of the relationship between the victim and the defendant.

Any settlement agreement containing a provision preventing the disclosure of factual information related to the action that is entered into on or after January 1, 2020, is void as a matter of law and against public policy.

Attorneys who fail to comply with these provisions and who demand such provisions be included in settlement agreements may be subject to professional discipline.

This bill is similar to HB 2363 (2018).