

By: Tepper, Leach

H.B. No. 2626

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the availability on the Internet of certain reports of
3 political contributions and expenditures.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 254.0401, Election Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (b), (e-1), and (h) to read as follows:

7 (b) The clerk or secretary of a political subdivision's
8 governing body or, if the governing body does not have a clerk or
9 secretary, the governing body's presiding officer shall make a
10 report filed with the political subdivision by a candidate,
11 officeholder, or specific-purpose committee under this subchapter
12 available to the public on the political subdivision's Internet
13 website not later than the 10th business day after the date the
14 report is received.

15 (e-1) Before making a report available on the Internet as
16 required by Subsection (b), the authority with whom the report is
17 filed may remove each portion, other than city, state, and zip code,
18 of the address of a person listed as having made a political
19 contribution to the person filing the report. The address
20 information removed must remain available on the report maintained
21 in the authority's office.

22 (h) A report made available on an Internet website under
23 this section must be accessible on that website until the fifth
24 anniversary of the date the report is first made available.

1 SECTION 2. The following provisions of the Election Code
2 are repealed:

3 (1) Sections 254.0401(a-1) and (c); and

4 (2) Section 254.04011.

5 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
6 a report under Chapter 254, Election Code, that is required to be
7 filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A report under
8 that chapter that is required to be filed before the effective date
9 of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the report
10 is required to be filed, and the former law is continued in effect
11 for that purpose.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.