

By: Longoria

H.B. No. 4282

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the confidentiality of certain information maintained  
3 by state licensing agencies.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 552.1176, Government Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a) Information that relates to the home or business  
9 address, place of work, [~~home~~] telephone number, electronic mail  
10 address, social security number, [~~or~~] date of birth, driver's  
11 license number or state identification number, passport number,  
12 emergency contact information, license application, criminal  
13 history record information obtained in connection with the issuance  
14 or renewal of a license, or payment information of a person licensed  
15 to practice law in this state that is maintained under Chapter 81 is  
16 confidential and may not be disclosed to the public under this  
17 chapter if the person to whom the information relates:

18 (1) chooses to restrict public access to the  
19 information; and

20 (2) notifies the State Bar of Texas of the person's  
21 choice, in writing or electronically, on a form provided by the  
22 state bar.

23 (d) Subsection (a) does not make confidential or except from  
24 required public disclosure the name, state bar identification

1 number, membership class, or eligibility to practice law of an  
2 applicant for a license, a license holder, or a person who  
3 previously held a license.

4 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 552, Government Code, is  
5 amended by adding Section 552.11765 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 552.11765. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION  
7 MAINTAINED BY STATE LICENSING AUTHORITY. (a) In this section,  
8 "license" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or  
9 other authorization that:

10 (1) is issued by a governmental body described by  
11 Section 552.003(1)(A)(i); and

12 (2) a person must obtain to practice or engage in a  
13 particular business, occupation, or profession.

14 (b) Information maintained by a governmental body described  
15 by Section 552.003(1)(A)(i) is confidential and excepted from the  
16 requirements of Section 552.021 if:

17 (1) the information relates to the home or business  
18 address, place of work, telephone number, electronic mail address,  
19 social security number, date of birth, driver's license or state  
20 identification number, passport number, emergency contact  
21 information, license application, criminal history record  
22 information obtained in connection with the issuance or renewal of  
23 a license, or payment information of:

24 (A) an applicant for a license issued by the  
25 governmental body;

26 (B) a person who holds a license issued by the  
27 governmental body; or

1                   (C) a person who previously held a license issued  
2 by the governmental body; and

3                   (2) the person to whom the information relates:

4                   (A) chooses to restrict public access to the  
5 information; and

6                   (B) notifies the governmental body of the  
7 person's choice, in writing or electronically, on a form provided  
8 by the governmental body.

9                   (c) A choice made under Subsection (b)(2) remains valid  
10 until rescinded in writing or electronically by the person.

11                   (d) Subsection (b) does not make confidential or except from  
12 required public disclosure the name, license number, or license  
13 status of an applicant for a license, a license holder, or a person  
14 who previously held a license.

15                   SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
16 a request for public information received by a governmental body,  
17 including the State Bar of Texas, or an officer for public  
18 information on or after the effective date of this Act.

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