

By: Tepper

H.B. No. 638

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a requirement that certain water districts make audio
3 and video recordings of open meetings available on the Internet.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 551.128(b-1), Government Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (b-1) A transit authority or department subject to Chapter
8 451, 452, 453, or 460, Transportation Code, a district subject to
9 Chapter 36, 49, or 60, Water Code, an elected school district board
10 of trustees for a school district that has a student enrollment of
11 10,000 or more, an elected governing body of a home-rule
12 municipality that has a population of 50,000 or more, or a county
13 commissioners court for a county that has a population of 125,000 or
14 more shall:

15 (1) make a video and audio recording of reasonable
16 quality of each:

17 (A) regularly scheduled open meeting that is not
18 a work session or a special called meeting; and

19 (B) open meeting that is a work session or
20 special called meeting if:

21 (i) the governmental body is an elected
22 school district board of trustees for a school district that has a
23 student enrollment of 10,000 or more; and

24 (ii) at the work session or special called

1 meeting, the board of trustees votes on any matter or allows public
2 comment or testimony; and

3 (2) make available an archived copy of the video and
4 audio recording of each meeting described by Subdivision (1) on the
5 Internet.

6 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
7 an open meeting held on or after the effective date of this Act. An
8 open meeting that is held before the effective date of this Act is
9 governed by the law in effect on the date of the open meeting, and
10 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.