

By: Solomons

H.B. No. 1166

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the on-line information needs and requirements of
3 licensing agencies and their license holders.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 2054, Government Code, as
6 added by Chapter 353, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular
7 Session, 2001, is amended by adding Sections 2054.255 and 2054.256
8 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 2054.255. CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND OTHER INFORMATION;
10 SECRETARY OF STATE. (a) The system adopted under Section 2054.253
11 shall allow a person regulated by one or more licensing authorities
12 to file a single change of address on-line with the secretary of
13 state. The secretary of state shall provide the new address to each
14 appropriate licensing authority.

15 (b) The department, in coordination with the secretary of
16 state, may expand the system to include additional categories of
17 updated information that license holders may need to provide to
18 more than one licensing authority.

19 Sec. 2054.256. SHARING OF INFORMATION. (a) Each licensing
20 authority shall electronically share information regarding license
21 holders, especially information regarding disciplinary
22 information, with other licensing authorities to the extent it is
23 feasible to do so and allowed by other law, under appropriate
24 controls for the privacy, security, accuracy, and, when applicable,

1 confidentiality of the information.

2 (b) A licensing authority may only use information it
3 receives electronically under this section for regulatory
4 purposes.

5 SECTION 2. (a) The Department of Information Resources
6 shall, in coordination with the secretary of state, study the
7 software and information needs of licensing authorities under
8 Subchapter I, Chapter 2054, Government Code, as added by Chapter
9 353, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, and as
10 amended by this Act. The study shall concentrate on software that
11 will:

12 (1) allow for a streamlined process under which
13 license holders could provide updated information needed by more
14 than one licensing authority to the secretary of state; and

15 (2) provide for better communication among licensing
16 authorities, including the sharing of information electronically
17 for regulatory purposes.

18 (b) Licensing authorities shall cooperate with the
19 department and the secretary of state in conducting the study.

20 (c) The department, not later than September 1, 2004, shall
21 complete the study and provide recommendations to each licensing
22 authority regarding acquiring information technology capabilities
23 sufficient to meet the goals described by Subsection (a) of this
24 section.

25 (d) The department may not require a licensing authority to
26 comply with the recommendations before September 1, 2005, but a
27 licensing authority may comply earlier.

1 SECTION 3. Sections 2054.255 and 2054.256, Government
2 Code, as added by this Act, take effect September 1, 2005.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.