

By: Barrientos

S.B. No. 1161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing counties and municipalities to provide certain services through the Internet.

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

SECTION 1. Section 132.007, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 132.007. INFORMATION, SERVICES, AND PAYMENT THROUGH THE INTERNET. (a) A county or municipality may provide through the Internet:

(1) access to information; ~~[or]~~

(2) collection of payments for taxes, fines, fees, court costs, or other charges; or

(3) other county and municipal services authorized by law.

(b) A county or municipality may charge a reasonable fee for providing a service authorized by this section.

(c) A county or municipality that provides access to information or provides services through the Internet under Subsection (a)(1) or (3):

(1) may only charge a fee for the access or service if the fee is designed to recover the costs directly and reasonably incurred in providing the access or service; and

(2) may charge the fee only if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that providing access to the

1 information or providing the service through the Internet would not
2 be feasible without the imposition of the charge.

3 (d) A county or municipality may contract with a vendor to
4 perform a service authorized by Subsection (a). A vendor must
5 promptly submit to the county or municipality all payments
6 collected on behalf of the county or municipality under this
7 section. The county or municipality must approve any fee charged by
8 a vendor [~~for a service performed~~] under a contract authorized by
9 this subsection [~~section~~].

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.