

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 access, collecting payments, or providing services [~~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

1 the county or municipality determines that providing access to the  
2 information or providing the service through the Internet would not  
3 be feasible without the imposition of the charge.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1161 passed the Senate on May 6, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 30, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1161 passed the House, with amendment, on May 28, 2003, by a non-record vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor