

By: Hegar

H.B. No. 2381

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to posting on the Internet the notice of a meeting of the
3 governing body of a county and certain districts and political
4 subdivisions.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 551.043, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 551.043. TIME AND ACCESSIBILITY OF NOTICE; GENERAL
9 RULE. (a) The notice of a meeting of a governmental body must be
10 posted in a place readily accessible to the general public at all
11 times for at least 72 hours before the scheduled time of the
12 meeting, except as provided by Sections 551.044-551.046.

13 (b) If this chapter specifically requires or allows a
14 governmental body to post notice of a meeting on the Internet, the
15 governmental body satisfies the requirement that the notice must be
16 posted in a place readily accessible to the general public at all
17 times by continuously posting the notice on the Internet during the
18 prescribed period.

19 SECTION 2. Section 551.049, Government Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 Sec. 551.049. COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL BODY: PLACE OF POSTING
22 NOTICE. A county governmental body:

23 (1) shall post notice of each meeting on a bulletin
24 board at a place convenient to the public in the county courthouse;

1 and

2 (2) may post notice of each meeting on the county's
3 official Internet website.

4 SECTION 3. Section 551.053, Government Code, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Sec. 551.053. DISTRICT OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION EXTENDING
7 INTO FOUR OR MORE COUNTIES: NOTICE TO PUBLIC, SECRETARY OF STATE,
8 AND COUNTY CLERK; PLACE OF POSTING NOTICE. (a) The governing body
9 of a water district or other district or political subdivision that
10 extends into four or more counties [~~shall~~]:

11 (1) shall post notice of each meeting at a place
12 convenient to the public in the administrative office of the
13 district or political subdivision;

14 (2) may post notice of each meeting on the official
15 Internet website of the district or political subdivision;

16 (3) shall provide notice of each meeting to the
17 secretary of state; and

18 (4) shall [~~(3)~~] provide notice of each meeting to the
19 county clerk of the county in which the administrative office of the
20 district or political subdivision is located.

21 (b) The secretary of state shall post the notice provided
22 under Subsection (a)(3) [~~(a)(2)~~] on the Internet. The secretary of
23 state shall provide during regular office hours a computer terminal
24 at a place convenient to the public in the office of the secretary
25 of state that members of the public may use to view the notice.

26 (c) A county clerk:

27 (1) shall post the notice provided under Subsection

1 (a)(4) [~~(a)(3)~~] on a bulletin board at a place convenient to the
2 public in the county courthouse; and

3 (2) may post each notice provided under Subsection
4 (a)(4) on the county's official Internet website.

5 SECTION 4. Section 551.054, Government Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 551.054. DISTRICT OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION EXTENDING
8 INTO FEWER THAN FOUR COUNTIES: NOTICE TO PUBLIC AND COUNTY CLERKS;
9 PLACE OF POSTING NOTICE. (a) The governing body of a water
10 district or other district or political subdivision that extends
11 into fewer than four counties [~~shall~~]:

12 (1) shall post notice of each meeting at a place
13 convenient to the public in the administrative office of the
14 district or political subdivision;

15 (2) may post notice of each meeting on the official
16 Internet website of the district or political subdivision; and

17 (3) shall [~~(2)~~] provide notice of each meeting to the
18 county clerk of each county in which the district or political
19 subdivision is located.

20 (b) A county clerk:

21 (1) shall post the notice provided under Subsection
22 (a)(3) [~~(a)(2)~~] on a bulletin board at a place convenient to the
23 public in the county courthouse; and

24 (2) may post each notice provided under Subsection
25 (a)(3) on the county's official Internet website.

26 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.