

By: Carona

S.B. No. 1140

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to requiring a record vote by each house or committee of  
3 the legislature on bills, proposed constitutional amendments,  
4 amendments to bills and proposed constitutional amendments, and  
5 certain other actions and to public notice of the record vote.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Government Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 301.035 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 301.035. RECORD VOTE ON BILLS REQUIRED. (a) A vote  
10 taken by a house or committee of the legislature must be by record  
11 vote if the vote is on:

12 (1) approval or disapproval of a bill or an amendment  
13 or substitute to a bill;

14 (2) approval or disapproval of a joint resolution  
15 proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment or an amendment  
16 or substitute to such a joint resolution;

17 (3) the appointment or election of a legislative  
18 officer or other public official; or

19 (4) the confirmation of an appointment or nomination  
20 to public office.

21 (b) How each member voted on a matter described by  
22 Subsection (a) shall be recorded in the journal of the appropriate  
23 house or in the minutes of the appropriate committee.

24 (c) The secretary of the senate or chief clerk of the house

1 of representatives, as applicable, shall promptly:

2 (1) publish each record vote required by this section,  
3 including the vote of each individual member, on the public  
4 Internet site maintained by or for the appropriate house in a manner  
5 that is easily accessible and searchable by members of the public;  
6 and

7 (2) maintain that information on the Internet site for  
8 at least two years after the date the vote is taken.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.