

By: Van Arsdale

H.B. No. 1497

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the consequences of the failure by a person requesting
3 information under the public information law to timely respond to
4 certain written communications from a governmental body.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 552.222, Government Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

8 (d) If before the 31st day after the date a governmental
9 body sends a written request for clarification or discussion under
10 Subsection (b) or an officer for public information or agent sends a
11 written request for additional information under Subsection (c) the
12 governmental body, officer for public information, or agent, as
13 applicable, does not receive a written or oral response from the
14 requestor, the underlying request for public information is
15 considered to have been withdrawn by the requestor.

16 (e) A written request for clarification or discussion under
17 Subsection (b) or a written request for additional information
18 under Subsection (c) must include a statement as to the
19 consequences of the failure by the requestor to timely respond to
20 the request for clarification, discussion, or additional
21 information.

22 SECTION 2. Sections 552.222(d) and (e), Government Code, as
23 added by this Act, apply only to a request for information that is
24 received by a governmental body or an officer for public

1 information on or after the effective date of this Act. A request
2 for information that was received before the effective date of this
3 Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the request was
4 received, and the former law is continued in effect for that
5 purpose.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.