

By: Bolton

H.B. No. 2633

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

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 AND OTHER MEASURES AND  
10 ACTIONS REQUIRED. (a) A vote taken by a house or committee of the  
11 legislature must be by record vote if the vote is on:

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

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

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

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

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

1        (c) The secretary of the senate or chief clerk of the house  
2 of representatives, as applicable, shall:

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

8            (2) permanently maintain that information on the  
9 Internet website.

10        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.