

1-1 By: Wentworth S.B. No. 178
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 9, 2007; January 29, 2007,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;
1-4 February 13, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; February 13, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to working papers and electronic communications of State
1-9 Office of Administrative Hearings administrative law judges.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 552.144, Government Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 552.144. EXCEPTION: WORKING PAPERS AND ELECTRONIC
1-14 COMMUNICATIONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES AT STATE OFFICE OF
1-15 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS. The following working papers and
1-16 electronic communications of an administrative law judge at the
1-17 State Office of Administrative Hearings are excepted from the
1-18 requirements of Section 552.021:

1-19 (1) notes and electronic communications recording the
1-20 observations, thoughts, questions, deliberations, or impressions
1-21 of an administrative law judge;

1-22 (2) drafts of a proposal for decision;

1-23 (3) drafts of orders made in connection with
1-24 conducting contested case hearings; and

1-25 (4) drafts of orders made in connection with
1-26 conducting alternative dispute resolution procedures.

1-27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-31 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
1-32 legislative session.

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