## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1068 By: Wentworth State Affairs Committee Report (Unamended)

#### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Certain personal information, including telephone numbers and addresses, of current and former employees of governmental bodies, peace officers, county jailers, security officers, employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and information maintained by a family violence shelter center or sexual assault program is not subject to disclosure under the Public Information Act. However, that information can only be redacted from any information that is requested pursuant to the Public Information Act and withheld if a decision is requested from the attorney general.

S.B. 1068 authorizes certain personal information to be redacted from public information without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

## **ANALYSIS**

- S.B. 1068 amends Section 552.024(c), Government Code, to provide that if the employee or official or former employee or official chooses not to allow public access to the information, the information is protected under Subchapter C (Information Excepted from Required Disclosure), and the governmental body is authorized to redact the information from any information the governmental body discloses under Section 552.021 (Availability of Public Information) without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G (Attorney General Decisions). Makes nonsubstantive changes.
- S.B. 1068 amends Section 552.1175, Government Code, by adding Subsection (f), to authorize a governmental body to redact information that is required to be withheld under Subsection (b) from any information the governmental body discloses under Section 552.021 without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G.
- S.B. 1068 amends Section 552.138, Government Code, by adding Subsection (c), to authorize a governmental body to redact information maintained by a family violence shelter or center or sexual assault program that is authorized to be withheld under Subsection (b)(1) (relating to certain information of an employee or volunteer of a family violence center or sexual assault program exempted from the requirements of Section 552.021) or (6) (relating to certain information of a member of the board of directors or board of trustees of a family violence shelter center or sexual assault program exempted from the requirements of Section 552.021) from any information the governmental body discloses under Section 552.021 without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G.

# **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Upon passage or September 1, 2009.

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