

By: Farias

H.B. No. 3048

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the availability on the Internet of reports of political expenditures and contributions filed in connection with certain county and municipal offices.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 254.0401, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 254.0401. AVAILABILITY OF [~~ELECTRONIC~~] REPORTS ON INTERNET.

SECTION 2. Section 254.0401, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (c) and amending Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(a-1) Each county clerk shall make a report filed with the clerk under this subchapter in connection with a county office or the office of county commissioner available to the public on the county's Internet website not later than the second business day after the date the report is filed.

(c) The clerk of a municipality with a population of 500,000 or more shall make a report filed with the clerk under this subchapter in connection with the office of mayor or member of the municipality's governing body available to the public on the municipality's Internet website not later than the second business day after the date the report is filed.

(f) The commission shall clearly state on the Internet

1 website on which reports are provided [~~under Subsection (b)~~] that
2 reports filed by an independent candidate, a third-party candidate,
3 or a specific-purpose committee for supporting or opposing an
4 independent or third-party candidate will not be available if the
5 candidate or committee has not yet filed a report.

6 SECTION 3. (a) Section 254.0401(b), Election Code, is
7 repealed.

8 (b) Effective January 1, 2010, Section 176.009(b), Local
9 Government Code, is repealed.

10 SECTION 4. Section 254.0401, Election Code, as amended by
11 this Act, and Section 176.009, Local Government Code, as amended by
12 this Act, apply only to a report of political contributions and
13 expenditures that is required to be filed under Chapter 254,
14 Election Code, on or after January 1, 2010.

15 SECTION 5. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.