By: Hinojosa   S.B. No. 266

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1   AN ACT

2 relating to the review of information technology systems used by a

3 state agency for compatibility with open standards.

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

5   SECTION 1.   Section 441.203, Government Code, is amended by

6 adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

7   (m)   The council, in cooperation with the Department of

8 Information Resources, shall:

9   (1)   review each state agency's existing information

10 technology system to determine whether the system is compatible

11 with open standards; and

12   (2)   consult with and provide assistance to state

13 agencies on:

14   (A)   enhancing the state agency's information

15 technology system to achieve compatibility with open standards

16 where appropriate; and

17   (B)   identifying and recommending information

18 technology systems that are compatible with open standards and

19 recognized best practices, including:

20   (i)   open standards for document formats for

21 creating,   exchanging,   and   maintaining   electronic   texts,

22 presentations, and spreadsheets, to replace outdated systems that

23 are to be retired or upgraded;

24   (ii)   open standards for database systems

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1 based on the Structured Query Language (SQL) standard defined by

2 the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), to replace

3 outdated systems based on nonrelational database technologies that

4 are to be retired or upgraded;

5   (iii) recognized best practices for the

6 structuring of data held in databases or disk file systems used by

7 mission-critical transaction processing applications, such that

8 the data is held in normalized relational data tables, to replace

9 outdated methods of data organization based on nonrelational or

10 highly nonnormalized data models, other than data warehouses and

11 business intelligence applications, that are to be retired or

12 upgraded;

13   (iv) open standards for computer

14 programming languages used for the development and maintenance of

15 applications, such that the programming languages used shall

16 conform to standards recognized by national or international

17 standards bodies, to replace applications developed in outdated

18 programming languages that are to be retired or upgraded; and

19   (v) open standards for operating system

20 hardware interface layers, such that operating systems used in

21 mission-critical applications are not tied exclusively to a single

22 brand of computer hardware or to a single type of microprocessor, to

23 replace outdated systems that are to be retired or updated.

24   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

1   Act takes effect September 1, 2009.