

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 470
By: Carona
County Affairs
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In 2009, the 81st Legislature passed S.B. 1182, which allowed an employee of a hospital district to apply to withhold from disclosure information subject to the Public Information Act that would compromise the public employee's safety. Such information could include information that describes or depicts the likeness of the employee, information relating to the times the employee may arrive or depart from a work location, a description of the employee's personal automobile, or the location where the employee works or parks his or her automobile. This information would be permitted to be withheld only on an employee's application to the governmental entity's public information officer. The application must then also be approved by the Office of the Attorney General conditioned on a finding that the employee's safety would in fact be compromised. S.B. 1182 provided that these provisions would be effective only through September 1, 2013.

S.B. 470 seeks to remove the expiration date of September 1, 2013, from Section 552.150(c), Government Code.

As proposed, S.B. 470 amends current law relating to an exception to disclosure under the public information law concerning officers and employees of a hospital district.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Repealer: Section 552.150(c) (relating to an expiration date of September 1, 2013 for Section 552.150 (Exception: Information That Could Compromise Safety of Officer or Employee of Hospital District)), Government Code.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2011.