

By: Gallego

H.B. No. 2439

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to posting suggestions and ideas on cost-efficiency and certain budget documents on certain state agency websites.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 2054, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2054.1265 to read as follows:

Sec. 2054.1265. POSTING OF COST-EFFICIENCY SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS ON STATE AGENCY WEBSITE. (a) In this section, "state agency" does not include an institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (d), each state agency that has 1,500 or more employees shall post on the agency's intranet website or generally accessible Internet website an electronic form or link allowing an employee of the agency to submit suggestions and ideas on how to make the agency more cost-efficient.

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), each state agency shall post on the agency's generally accessible Internet website a link allowing members of the public to:

(1) monitor, in real time or on a weekly or monthly basis, submissions made under Subsection (b); and

(2) vote for the public's favorite submission.

(d) The department may exclude from the requirements of this section a state agency if the agency has a preexisting program or link that the department determines substantially meets the

1 requirements of this section.

2 (e) The department shall adopt rules establishing  
3 procedures and required formats for implementing this section.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 322, Government Code, is amended by  
5 adding Section 322.0081 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 322.0081. BUDGET DOCUMENTS ONLINE. (a) In order to  
7 assist members of the public in posting cost-efficiency suggestions  
8 and ideas, the board shall post on the board's Internet website all  
9 documents prepared by the board that are provided to a committee,  
10 subcommittee, or conference committee of either house of the  
11 legislature in connection with an appropriations bill.

12 (b) The board shall post a document to which this section  
13 applies as soon as practicable after the document is provided to a  
14 committee, subcommittee, or conference committee.

15 (c) The document must be downloadable and provide data in an  
16 open standard format that allows the public to search, extract,  
17 organize, and analyze the information in the document.

18 SECTION 3. Section 322.0081, Government Code, as added by  
19 this Act, applies only to documents provided to a committee,  
20 subcommittee, or conference committee on or after October 1, 2011.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.