By: Pena H.B. No. 3054

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to disclosures for certain political advertising.

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

SECTION 1. Section 255.001(a), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person may not knowingly cause to be posted on an Internet website, published, distributed, or broadcast political advertising containing express advocacy that does not indicate in the advertising:

(1) that it is political advertising; and

(2) the full name of:

(A) the person who paid for the political advertising;

(B) the political committee authorizing the political advertising; or

(C) the candidate or specific-purpose committee supporting the candidate, if the political advertising is authorized by the candidate.

SECTION 2. Chapter 255, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 255.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 255.009. CERTAIN PAYMENTS CONSIDERED PAYMENTS FOR POLITICAL ADVERTISING. (a) This section applies to a payment made:

(1) by a person who has paid for or authorized the posting on an Internet website of political advertising;

(2) to the person who posted the advertising; and

(3) within one year of the posting.

(b) A payment described by this section made for any service, regardless of whether that service is related to political advertising:

(1) is considered to be payment for that advertising; and

(2) must be reported as an expenditure under this title, if the reporting of a payment for the advertising would be otherwise required by this title.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.