

By: Ellis

S.B. No. 454

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to improving state energy conservation, including through the use of thermostat settings and building efficiency.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 447, Government Code, is amended by adding Sections 447.014 and 447.015 to read as follows:

Sec. 447.014. STATE ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURES DATABASE. The State Energy Conservation Office shall develop and maintain a database of state agency energy consumption and expenditures. The database must be designed to allow any agency to determine the agency's energy consumption and expenditures in each building occupied by the agency. The database may include the square footage occupied by a state agency in a building.

Sec. 447.015. INTEGRATED BUILDING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS. (a) The State Energy Conservation Office, in consultation with the Texas Facilities Commission and the Department of Information Resources, shall develop a plan to incorporate integrated building management systems that use existing or planned investments in information technology infrastructure in each new state building or major renovation of a state building, including a new building or major renovation of a building of an institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, to maximize efficiency of all building systems and reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

1 (b) The plan developed under Subsection (a) must require an
2 integrated building management system to be capable of integrating
3 into a distributed and networked enterprise system to allow
4 real-time monitoring and management from an Internet device of
5 building systems, including energy performance, system
6 maintenance, physical security, systems to monitor operating
7 costs, and environmental performance.

8 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 2165, Government Code, is
9 amended by adding Section 2165.010 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 2165.010. THERMOSTAT SETTINGS IN STATE BUILDINGS. (a)
11 A state agency or institution of higher education in charge and
12 control of a state building shall adjust thermostat settings within
13 industry standards for energy conservation, as determined by the
14 United States Department of Energy, to achieve occupant comfort and
15 to correspond to:

16 (1) seasonal temperature changes; and

17 (2) building occupancy schedules.

18 (b) This section does not apply to a building containing
19 temperature sensitive operations, including computer and
20 laboratory facilities and buildings in which populations live or
21 are served on a 24-hour basis.

22 SECTION 3. Section 388.005(e), Health and Safety Code, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (e) A political subdivision, institution of higher
25 education, or state agency annually shall report to the State
26 Energy Conservation Office, on forms provided by that office,
27 regarding the entity's efforts and progress under this section.

1 The report must include the entity's seasonal specific thermostat
2 settings and thermostat settings for nonpeak or off hours. The
3 State Energy Conservation Office shall provide assistance and
4 information to the entity to help the entity meet the goals set
5 under this section.

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