

By: Watson

S.B. No. 701

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to high-value data sets of state agencies posted on the
3 Internet.

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

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

7 Sec. 2054.1265. POSTING HIGH-VALUE DATA SETS ON INTERNET.

8 (a) In this section:

9 (1) "High-value data set" means information that can
10 be used to increase state agency accountability and responsiveness,
11 improve public knowledge of the agency and its operations, further
12 the core mission of the agency, create economic opportunity, or
13 respond to need and demand as identified through public
14 consultation. The term does not include information that is
15 confidential or protected from disclosure under state or federal
16 law.

17 (2) "State agency" means a board, commission, office,
18 department, or other agency in the executive, judicial, or
19 legislative branch of state government. The term includes an
20 institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003,
21 Education Code.

22 (b) Each state agency shall post on a generally accessible
23 Internet website maintained by or for the agency each high-value
24 data set created or maintained by the agency, if the agency:

1 (1) determines that, using existing resources, the
2 agency can post the data set on the Internet website at no
3 additional cost to the state;

4 (2) enters into a contract advantageous to the state
5 under which the contractor posts the data set on the Internet
6 website at no additional cost to the state; or

7 (3) receives a gift or grant specifically for the
8 purpose of posting one or more of the agency's high-value data sets
9 on the Internet website.

10 (c) A high-value data set posted by a state agency under
11 this section must be raw data in open standard format that allows
12 the public to search, extract, organize, and analyze the
13 information.

14 (d) The web page on which a state agency's high-value data
15 set is posted must:

16 (1) use the agency's Internet website home page and
17 include the uniform resource locator suffix "data"; and

18 (2) be not more than two mouse clicks from the agency's
19 Internet website home page.

20 (e) A state agency may accept a gift or grant for the purpose
21 of posting one or more of the agency's high-value data sets on an
22 Internet website.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.