

By: Rodriguez

S.B. No. 970

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to information included in a searchable state revenue and expenditure database maintained by the comptroller.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 403.024, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 403.024. SEARCHABLE STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE DATABASE.

SECTION 2. Sections 403.024(b), (c), (d), (e), (g), and (h), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The comptroller shall establish and post on the Internet a database of state revenues and expenditures, including contracts and grants, that is electronically searchable by the public except as provided by Subsection (d). The database must include:

(1) the amount, date, payor, and payee of expenditures; ~~and~~

(2) a listing of state expenditures by:

(A) object of expense with links to the warrant or check register level; ~~and~~

(B) to the extent maintained by state agency accounting systems in a reportable format, class and item levels;

(C) category of expenditure; and

(D) county in which the state expenditure is made;

1 (3) the amount, date, and payor of state revenue;

2 (4) a listing of state revenues by:

3 (A) source;

4 (B) object;

5 (C) category of revenue; and

6 (D) county in which the revenue is collected; and

7 (5) a description of each category and object of
8 revenue or expenditure.

9 (c) To the extent possible, the comptroller shall present
10 information in the database established under this section in a
11 manner that is searchable and intuitive to users. The comptroller
12 shall enhance and organize the presentation of the information
13 through the use of graphical representations, such as pie charts,
14 as the comptroller considers appropriate. At a minimum, the
15 database must allow users to:

16 (1) search and aggregate state revenues and
17 expenditures [~~funding~~] by any element of the information, including
18 a search by the county in which:

19 (A) the state expenditure is made; and

20 (B) the state revenue is collected;

21 (2) ascertain through a single search:

22 (A) the total amount of state funding awarded to
23 a person by a state agency;

24 (B) the amount of state revenue collected in each
25 county; and

26 (C) the amount of state expenditures in each
27 county; and

1 (3) without additional authorization from the state,
2 download and reproduce information yielded by a search of the
3 database with a citation to the database, the date the database was
4 last updated, and the date the information was downloaded included
5 in the downloaded information.

6 (d) The comptroller may not allow public access under this
7 section to a payee's address, except that the comptroller may allow
8 public access under this section to information identifying the
9 county in which the payor or payee is located. The comptroller may
10 not allow public access under this section to information that is
11 identified by a state agency or county as excepted from required
12 disclosure under Chapter 552 or as confidential. It is an exception
13 to the application of Section 552.352(a) that the comptroller or an
14 officer or employee of the comptroller's office posted information
15 under this section in reliance on a determination made by a state
16 agency or county about the confidentiality of information relating
17 to the agency's or county's revenues or expenditures. The
18 comptroller or an officer or employee of the comptroller's office
19 is immune from any civil liability for posting confidential
20 information under this section if the comptroller, officer, or
21 employee posted the information in reliance on a determination made
22 by a state agency or county about the confidentiality of
23 information relating to the agency's or county's revenues or
24 expenditures.

25 (e) To the extent any information required to be in the
26 database is already being collected or maintained by a state agency
27 or county, the state agency or county shall provide that

1 information to the comptroller for inclusion in the database.

2 (g) Except as provided by Subsection (h), a state agency or
3 county is required to cooperate with and provide information to the
4 comptroller as necessary to implement and administer this section.

5 (h) This section does not require a state agency or county
6 to record information or expend resources for the purpose of
7 computer programming or other additional actions necessary to make
8 information reportable under this section.

9 SECTION 3. The comptroller of public accounts shall modify
10 the Internet database established under Section 403.024,
11 Government Code, as necessary to conform to the requirements of
12 that section, as amended by this Act, not later than January 1,
13 2012.

14 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.