

1-1 By: Williams S.B. No. 1702
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2011; March 23, 2011, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland
1-4 Security; March 31, 2011, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; March 31, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the establishment of a task force to enhance the
1-9 prosecution and tracking of money laundering in this state.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 402, Government Code, is
1-12 amended by adding Section 402.038 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 402.038. MONEY LAUNDERING TASK FORCE. (a) In this
1-14 section:

1-15 (1) "Money laundering" includes conduct prohibited
1-16 under Section 34.02, Penal Code.

1-17 (2) "Task force" means the money laundering task
1-18 force.

1-19 (b) The office of the attorney general shall establish the
1-20 task force to form a strategic partnership between state, federal,
1-21 and local law enforcement agencies to better enable law enforcement
1-22 and state agencies to take a proactive stance towards tracking and
1-23 prosecuting money laundering and the perpetrators of money
1-24 laundering statewide.

1-25 (c) The task force consists of the following persons or
1-26 their appointees:

1-27 (1) the attorney general;

1-28 (2) the public safety director of the Department of
1-29 Public Safety;

1-30 (3) the banking commissioner;

1-31 (4) the credit union commissioner;

1-32 (5) the securities commissioner;

1-33 (6) the savings and mortgage lending commissioner; and

1-34 (7) the comptroller.

1-35 (d) The task force may request assistance from the Federal
1-36 Bureau of Investigation, United States Secret Service, United
1-37 States Department of Justice, United States Department of Homeland
1-38 Security, Internal Revenue Service, United States Department of the
1-39 Treasury, United States Postal Service, and any other federal
1-40 agency the task force determines to be appropriate.

1-41 (e) The task force shall focus its efforts in:

1-42 (1) sharing information and resources; and

1-43 (2) successfully enforcing administrative and
1-44 criminal actions against perpetrators of money laundering.

1-45 (f) The agencies of the persons listed in Subsection (c) may
1-46 share confidential information or information to which access is
1-47 otherwise restricted by law with one or more of the other agencies
1-48 of the persons listed in Subsection (c) for investigative purposes
1-49 described by Subsection (b). Except as provided by this
1-50 subsection, confidential information that is shared under this
1-51 subsection remains confidential and legal restrictions on access to
1-52 the information apply.

1-53 (g) The task force shall submit to the governor, lieutenant
1-54 governor, and speaker of the house of representatives an annual
1-55 report that:

1-56 (1) describes the progress of each agency of the
1-57 persons listed in Subsection (c) in accomplishing the purposes
1-58 described by Subsection (b); and

1-59 (2) includes recommendations for strengthening state
1-60 and local efforts to prevent money laundering.

1-61 (h) The office of the attorney general shall oversee the
1-62 administration of the task force. The office of the attorney
1-63 general shall provide the necessary facilities to assist the task
1-64 force in performing its duties. Each agency of the persons listed

2-1 in Subsection (c) shall provide the necessary staff to assist the
2-2 task force in performing its duties.

2-3 (i) The agencies of the persons listed in Subsection (c) may
2-4 solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations of money, services,
2-5 or property on behalf of the state for disbursement to any state
2-6 agency or local law enforcement agency to aid the task force in the
2-7 investigation and prosecution of money laundering in this state.

2-8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-12 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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