

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 2, 2011

TO: Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Chair, Senate Committee on Open Government, Select

FROM: John S O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB669 by Wentworth (relating to requests to inspect or be provided with copies of information under the public information law.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill would amend Government Code related to the Public Information Act by expanding the definition of manipulation to include a search of one or more e-mail or text message accounts and the transfer of related information to a paper, or other, format that can be inspected by the requestor. The bill would authorize a governmental body to respond to a public information request with a notice to the requestor that the requested information is available on the governmental entities website, and sets a required process for such a notice.

The bill amends requirements for when a requestor is required to pay the costs of a governmental entities response to a public information request. The bill would clarify that a request modification submitted in response to a deposit or bond be considered a separate request.

This analysis assumes that any costs resulting from implementation of the bill's provisions can be met within existing resources.

The bill would apply only to a request received by a governmental body on or after the effective date. The bill would take effect September 1, 2011.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General, 307 Secretary of State, 356 Texas Ethics Commission, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: JOB, KKR, JT, JI, KY