

By: Pitts

H.B. No. 14

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the fiscal transparency and accountability of certain entities responsible for public money.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 46, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. PUBLIC INFORMATION REGARDING FACILITIES

Sec. 46.101. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "instructional facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 46.001.

Sec. 46.102. INVENTORY OF EXISTING FACILITIES. (a) A school district or open-enrollment charter school shall post an inventory of the district's or school's existing facilities on the district's or school's Internet website.

(b) The inventory must include at least the following information regarding instructional facilities:

(1) the total available square footage and maximum student capacity of the district's or school's instructional facilities in aggregate;

(2) the total current student enrollment in the district or school; and

(3) for each separate instructional facility:

(A) square footage;

(B) maximum student capacity; and

1 (C) current student enrollment.

2 (c) The inventory must include at least the following
3 information regarding each facility other than an instructional
4 facility:

5 (1) square footage;

6 (2) a statement of the facility's current use; and

7 (3) any other information specified by rule adopted by
8 the commissioner.

9 (d) For a facility for which the school district or
10 open-enrollment charter school developed and posted construction
11 or renovation information in accordance with Section 46.103, the
12 information provided under this section for the facility must also
13 include the final updated information required under Section
14 46.103. This subsection does not require a district or school to
15 develop and post information regarding construction or renovation
16 costs for a facility not subject to Section 46.103.

17 (e) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
18 shall update the information posted under this section at least
19 annually and more frequently if necessary to ensure that the
20 information provides an accurate description of existing
21 facilities.

22 (f) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
23 shall maintain an Internet website to comply with this section.

24 Sec. 46.103. CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF FACILITIES.

25 (a) A school district or open-enrollment charter school shall post
26 on the district's or school's Internet website at least the
27 information specified by this section regarding each project for

1 the construction or renovation of a facility.

2 (b) The following information must be posted regarding an
3 instructional facility:

4 (1) the square footage of the facility;

5 (2) the square footage per student, computed using the
6 maximum student capacity at the facility;

7 (3) the cost per square foot;

8 (4) the cost per student, computed using the maximum
9 student capacity at the facility; and

10 (5) the average cost of constructing a comparable
11 facility in the region, as determined by the commissioner under
12 Subsection (f).

13 (c) The following information must be posted regarding a
14 facility other than an instructional facility:

15 (1) the square footage of the facility;

16 (2) a statement of the intended use of the facility;

17 (3) the cost per square foot;

18 (4) the average cost of constructing a comparable
19 facility in the region, as determined by the commissioner under
20 Subsection (f); and

21 (5) any other information specified by rule adopted by
22 the commissioner.

23 (d) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
24 shall comply with this section at the beginning of a project by
25 posting information based on estimated costs and anticipated
26 construction or renovation design plans. At the conclusion of the
27 project, the district or school shall post updated information that

1 reflects the actual cost and final specifications of the project.
2 Subsequently, the district or school shall continue to post the
3 information as provided by Section 46.102(d).

4 (e) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
5 shall maintain an Internet website to comply with this section.

6 (f) The commissioner shall determine and periodically
7 update information regarding the average cost per square foot in
8 each region of the state of constructing instructional facilities
9 and other school district or open-enrollment charter school
10 facilities. The commissioner may base a determination under this
11 subsection on any relevant information available to the
12 commissioner and may enter into any contract necessary to authorize
13 use of or access to the information.

14 SECTION 2. Section 51.005, Education Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 51.005. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT [~~REPORTS~~]. (a) Each
17 institution of higher education shall:

18 (1) prepare a complete annual financial report as
19 prescribed by Section 2101.011, Government Code; and

20 (2) post the institution's most recent annual
21 financial report continuously on the institution's Internet
22 website.

23 (b) Each institution of higher education that is a component
24 of a university system shall include in its annual financial report
25 a description of any debt issued by the university system for or on
26 behalf of the institution during the fiscal year covered by the
27 report. In this subsection, "university system" has the meaning

1 assigned by Section 61.003.

2 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
3 amended by adding Section 61.0621 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 61.0621. JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION COST
5 REPORTING. (a) The board shall require each junior college
6 district to report building construction costs and related
7 information to the board for the purpose of determining:

8 (1) the average cost per square foot, adjusted for
9 inflation for the region of the state in which the project is
10 located; and

11 (2) the average cost per student for each junior
12 college district.

13 (b) The board, in consultation with the governing boards of
14 the state's junior college districts, shall prescribe the form,
15 manner, and times of reports required under this section.

16 (c) The board shall compile the information reported under
17 Subsection (a) for all junior college districts and periodically
18 report its findings to the districts. The board and each junior
19 college district shall post the board's findings on each respective
20 entity's Internet website.

21 (d) The board shall adopt rules for the administration of
22 this section.

23 (e) In administering this section, the board shall attempt
24 to avoid duplicating other reporting requirements applicable to
25 junior college districts.

26 SECTION 4. Subchapter B, Chapter 403, Government Code, is
27 amended by adding Section 403.0117 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 403.0117. LOCAL TAX RATES PUBLISHED ON INTERNET. (a)

2 The comptroller shall publish on the comptroller's Internet
3 website, listed by county:

4 (1) the name of each political subdivision that
5 imposes a sales and use tax and the sales and use tax rate for the
6 political subdivision; and

7 (2) the tax rate information reported to the
8 comptroller by each county assessor-collector under Section
9 26.16(e), Tax Code.

10 (b) The comptroller shall update the information described
11 by Subsection (a) at least annually.

12 SECTION 5. Section 1202.008, Government Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 Sec. 1202.008. COLLECTION AND REPORT OF INFORMATION ON
15 LOCAL [PUBLIC] SECURITIES [OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS]. (a) In
16 this section, "local security" has the meaning assigned by Section
17 1231.001.

18 (b) In reviewing public securities under this chapter, the
19 attorney general shall [may] collect, in the form required by the
20 Bond Review Board, information on each local security [public
21 securities issued by a municipal corporation or political
22 subdivision of this state].

23 (c) [(b)] The information must include:

24 (1) the terms of each local security [the public
25 securities];

26 (2) the debt service payable on each local security
27 [the public securities]; and

1 (3) other information required by the Bond Review
2 Board.

3 (d) [~~(c)~~] The attorney general shall send the information
4 to the Bond Review Board for inclusion in the reports required by
5 Sections [board's report of debt statistics under Section]
6 1231.062, 1231.104, and 1231.105.

7 (e) The attorney general may not approve a local security
8 under Section 1202.003 until the attorney general receives written
9 notification from the Bond Review Board that the board:

10 (1) has received the information required by
11 Subsection (c); or

12 (2) has agreed to a later date for the submission of
13 the information.

14 SECTION 6. The heading to Subtitle B, Title 9, Government
15 Code, is amended to read as follows:

16 SUBTITLE B. PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PUBLIC SECURITIES [~~ISSUED BY~~
17 ~~STATE GOVERNMENT~~]

18 SECTION 7. Section 1231.001, Government Code, is amended by
19 adding Subdivision (4) to read as follows:

20 (4) "Local security" means a public security as
21 defined by Section 1201.002, other than a state security.

22 SECTION 8. Section 1231.062(b), Government Code, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 (b) A report must include:

25 (1) total debt service as a percentage of total
26 expenditures;

27 (2) total debt [~~tax-supported debt service as a~~

1 ~~percentage of general revenue expenditure;~~
2 ~~[(3)] per capita [total debt];~~
3 (3) tax-supported debt ~~[(4) per capita tax-supported~~
4 ~~debt;~~
5 ~~[(5) total debt and tax-supported debt as a percentage~~
6 ~~of personal income;~~
7 ~~[(6) total personal income per capita;~~
8 ~~[(7) total debt per capita as a percentage of total~~
9 ~~personal income] per capita;~~
10 (4) ~~[(8)] total debt and tax-supported debt as a~~
11 ~~percentage of real property valuations;~~
12 (5) ~~[(9) total debt and tax-supported debt as a~~
13 ~~percentage of annual revenues and expenditures;~~
14 ~~[(10)] principal scheduled [required] to be repaid in~~
15 ~~five years, [and principal required to be repaid in] 10 years, and~~
16 ~~20 years;~~
17 (6) ~~[(11) growth rates of total debt per capita and~~
18 ~~total debt per dollar of personal income;~~
19 ~~[(12)] recent issuances [trends in the issuance] of~~
20 ~~short-term notes;~~
21 (7) ~~[(13)] recent trends in issuance costs;~~
22 (8) ~~[(14)] savings from recent refundings;~~
23 (9) debt outstanding ~~[(15) recent trends in~~
24 ~~capitalized interest use;~~
25 ~~[(16) debt service coverage ratios, if applicable];~~
26 and
27 (10) ~~[(17)] other information the board considers~~

1 relevant.

2 SECTION 9. The heading to Section 1231.102, Government
3 Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 1231.102. STATE SECURITIES ANNUAL REPORT.

5 SECTION 10. Subchapter F, Chapter 1231, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Sections 1231.104, 1231.105, and 1231.106 to read
7 as follows:

8 Sec. 1231.104. LOCAL SECURITIES ANNUAL REPORT. Not later
9 than the 180th day after the end of each state fiscal year, the bond
10 finance office shall publish a report listing:

- 11 (1) the amount of local securities outstanding;
12 (2) applicable repayment schedules; and
13 (3) other information the office considers relevant.

14 Sec. 1231.105. ONLINE ANNUAL LOCAL DEBT STATISTICS REPORT.
15 Not later than the 150th day after the end of each state fiscal
16 year, the bond finance office shall publish on the office's
17 Internet website a report that includes the statistical information
18 listed in Section 1231.062(b) for all local securities for the
19 preceding fiscal year.

20 Sec. 1231.106. REQUIRED INFORMATION. (a) An issuer of a
21 local security shall provide annually to the bond finance office,
22 and at other times required by the office, information that the
23 office determines necessary to administer the powers or duties of
24 the board or the office, including the preparation of any report.

25 (b) The bond finance office shall develop a standardized
26 format to simplify the submission of information by an issuer under
27 this section.

1 SECTION 11. Chapter 1251, Government Code, is amended by
2 designating Sections 1251.001, 1251.002, 1251.003, 1251.004,
3 1251.005, and 1251.006 as Subchapter A and adding a heading to
4 Subchapter A to read as follows:

5 SUBCHAPTER A. COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

6 SECTION 12. Chapter 1251, Government Code, is amended by
7 adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER B. BOND MATTERS AFFECTING MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF

9 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

10 Sec. 1251.051. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

11 (1) "Debt obligation" means an issued public security,
12 as defined by Section 1201.002.

13 (2) "Political subdivision" means a county,
14 municipality, school district, junior college district, other
15 special district, or other subdivision of state government.

16 Sec. 1251.052. CONTENTS OF BALLOT PROPOSITION. (a) The
17 proposition submitted for an election to authorize a political
18 subdivision to issue bonds must distinctly state:

19 (1) as a total amount and as a per capita amount:

20 (A) the then-current principal of all
21 outstanding debt obligations of the political subdivision;

22 (B) the then-current combined principal and
23 interest required to pay all outstanding debt obligations of the
24 political subdivision on time and in full;

25 (C) the principal of the bonds to be authorized;
26 and

27 (D) the estimated combined principal and

1 interest required to pay the bonds to be authorized on time and in
2 full;

3 (2) the purpose for which the bonds are to be
4 authorized;

5 (3) the estimated rate of interest for the bonds to be
6 authorized; and

7 (4) the maturity date of the bonds to be authorized.

8 (b) The requirements for a proposition prescribed by this
9 section are in addition to any other requirements prescribed by
10 law. To the extent of a conflict between this section and Section
11 52.072, Election Code, this section controls.

12 Sec. 1251.053. ONLINE SAMPLE BALLOT. A sample of the ballot
13 printed for an election to authorize a political subdivision to
14 issue bonds must be posted on the political subdivision's Internet
15 website as soon as practicable after the official ballots have been
16 prepared and must remain posted until the day following the
17 election.

18 Sec. 1251.054. FORM OF BALLOT. The secretary of state shall
19 prescribe a form of the ballot for an election held under this
20 subchapter. A political subdivision is not required to use the
21 form.

22 SECTION 13. Section 140.005, Local Government Code, is
23 transferred to Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code,
24 redesignated as Section 12.1191, Education Code, and amended to
25 read as follows:

26 Sec. 12.1191 [~~140.005~~]. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF
27 CHARTER SCHOOL [~~, ROAD, OR OTHER DISTRICT~~]. (a) The governing body

1 of an [~~a school district,~~] open-enrollment charter school [~~, junior~~
2 ~~college district, or a district or authority organized under~~
3 ~~Article III, Section 52, or Article XVI, Section 59, of the Texas~~
4 ~~Constitution,~~] shall prepare an annual financial statement showing
5 for each fund subject to the authority of the governing body during
6 the fiscal year:

7 (1) the total receipts of the fund, itemized by source
8 of revenue, including taxes, assessments, service charges, grants
9 of state money, gifts, or other general sources from which funds are
10 derived;

11 (2) the total disbursements of the fund, itemized by
12 the nature of the expenditure; and

13 (3) the balance in the fund at the close of the fiscal
14 year.

15 (b) The governing body of an open-enrollment charter school
16 shall take action to ensure that the school's annual financial
17 report is made available in the manner provided by Chapter 552,
18 Government Code, and is posted continuously on the school's
19 Internet website.

20 (c) An open-enrollment charter school shall maintain an
21 Internet website to comply with this section.

22 SECTION 14. Chapter 140, Local Government Code, is amended
23 by adding Section 140.008 to read as follows:

24 Sec. 140.008. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT; DEBT INFORMATION.

25 (a) In this section:

26 (1) "Debt obligation" means an issued public security,
27 as defined by Section 1201.002, Government Code.

1 (2) "Political subdivision" means a county,
2 municipality, school district, junior college district, other
3 special district, or other subdivision of state government.

4 (b) A political subdivision shall prepare an annual
5 financial report that includes:

6 (1) financial information for each fund subject to the
7 authority of the governing body of the political subdivision during
8 the fiscal year, including:

9 (A) the total receipts of the fund, itemized by
10 source of revenue, including taxes, assessments, service charges,
11 grants of state money, gifts, or other general sources from which
12 funds are derived;

13 (B) the total disbursements of the fund, itemized
14 by the nature of the expenditure;

15 (C) the balance in the fund as of the last day of
16 the fiscal year; and

17 (D) any other information required by law to be
18 included by the political subdivision in an annual financial report
19 or comparable annual financial statement, exhibit, or report; and

20 (2) then-current debt obligation information for the
21 political subdivision that must state:

22 (A) as a total amount and as a per capita amount:

23 (i) the amount of all authorized debt
24 obligations;

25 (ii) the principal of all outstanding debt
26 obligations;

27 (iii) the principal of each outstanding

1 debt obligation;

2 (iv) the combined principal and interest
3 required to pay all outstanding debt obligations on time and in
4 full; and

5 (v) the combined principal and interest
6 required to pay each outstanding debt obligation on time and in
7 full; and

8 (B) for each debt obligation:

9 (i) the issued and unissued amount;

10 (ii) the spent and unspent amount;

11 (iii) the maturity date; and

12 (iv) the stated purpose for which the debt
13 obligation was authorized.

14 (c) The governing body of a political subdivision shall take
15 action to ensure that:

16 (1) the political subdivision's annual financial
17 report is made available for inspection by any person and is posted
18 continuously on the political subdivision's Internet website; and

19 (2) the contact information for the main office of the
20 political subdivision is continuously posted on the website,
21 including the physical address, the mailing address, the main
22 telephone number, and an e-mail address.

23 (d) A political subdivision shall maintain an Internet
24 website to comply with this section.

25 SECTION 15. Section 271.047, Local Government Code, is
26 amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

27 (d) Except in a case of grave public necessity to meet an

1 unusual and unforeseen condition, the governing body of an issuer
2 may not authorize a certificate to pay a contractual obligation to
3 be incurred if a bond proposition to authorize the issuance of bonds
4 for the same purpose was submitted to the voters during the
5 preceding three years and failed to be approved.

6 SECTION 16. Section 271.049, Local Government Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Sec. 271.049. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES;
9 PETITION AND ELECTION. (a) Regardless of the sources of payment of
10 certificates, certificates may not be issued unless the issuer
11 publishes notice of its intention to issue the certificates. The
12 notice must be published:

13 (1) once a week for two consecutive weeks in a
14 newspaper, as defined by Subchapter C, Chapter 2051, Government
15 Code, that is of general circulation in the area of the issuer, with
16 the date of the first publication to be before the 45th [30th] day
17 before the date tentatively set for the passage of the order or
18 ordinance authorizing the issuance of the certificates; and

19 (2) continuously on the issuer's Internet website for
20 at least 45 days before the date tentatively set for the passage of
21 the order or ordinance authorizing the issuance of the
22 certificates.

23 (b) The notice must state:

24 (1) the time and place tentatively set for the passage
25 of the order or ordinance authorizing the issuance of the
26 certificates;

27 (2) the [~~maximum amount and~~] purpose of the

1 certificates to be authorized; [~~and~~]

2 (3) the manner in which the certificates will be paid
3 for, whether by taxes, revenues, or a combination of the two;

4 (4) the following, stated as a total amount and as a
5 per capita amount:

6 (A) the then-current principal of all
7 outstanding debt obligations of the issuer;

8 (B) the then-current combined principal and
9 interest required to pay all outstanding debt obligations of the
10 issuer on time and in full;

11 (C) the principal of the certificates to be
12 authorized; and

13 (D) the estimated combined principal and
14 interest required to pay the certificates to be authorized on time
15 and in full;

16 (5) the estimated rate of interest for the
17 certificates to be authorized;

18 (6) the maturity date of the certificates to be
19 authorized; and

20 (7) the process by which a petition may be submitted
21 requesting an election on the issuance of the certificates, in the
22 following form:

23 "Five percent of the total number of voters of (name of
24 issuer) that voted in the most recent gubernatorial general
25 election may petition to require an election to be held authorizing
26 the issuance of certificates of obligation by delivering a signed
27 petition to the (insert "secretary or clerk" if the issuer is a

1 municipality, or "county clerk" if the issuer is a county) of (name
2 of issuer) before the date the governing body has set for the
3 authorization of the certificates of obligation. Information about
4 the requirements of the petition may be obtained from the (insert
5 "secretary or clerk" if the issuer is a municipality, or "county
6 clerk" if the issuer is a county) of (name of issuer)."~~[-]~~

7 (c) If before the date tentatively set for the authorization
8 of the issuance of the certificates or if before the authorization,
9 the municipal secretary or clerk if the issuer is a municipality, or
10 the county clerk if the issuer is a county, receives a petition
11 signed by a number of qualified voters of the issuer equal to five
12 percent or more of the number of votes cast in the municipality or
13 county, as applicable, in the most recent gubernatorial general
14 election ~~[at least five percent of the qualified voters of the~~
15 ~~issuer]~~ protesting the issuance of the certificates, the issuer may
16 not authorize the issuance of the certificates unless the issuance
17 is approved at an election ordered, held, and conducted in the
18 manner provided for bond elections under Chapter 1251, Government
19 Code.

20 (d) This section does not apply to certificates issued for
21 the purposes described by Sections 271.056(1)-(3)
22 ~~[271.056(1)-(4)]~~.

23 (e) An issuer shall maintain an Internet website to comply
24 with this section.

25 (f) In this section, "debt obligation" means an issued
26 public security, as defined by Section 1201.002, Government Code.

27 SECTION 17. Title 1, Special District Local Laws Code, is

1 amended by adding Chapter 2 to read as follows:

2 CHAPTER 2. REVIEW OF CERTAIN SPECIAL DISTRICTS

3 Sec. 2.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "special
4 district" means a political subdivision of this state that has a
5 limited geographic area, is created by local law or under general
6 law for a special purpose, and is authorized to impose a tax,
7 assessment, or fee. The term does not include a school district or
8 junior college district.

9 Sec. 2.002. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW REQUIRED. At least once
10 every three years, the governing body of a special district shall
11 conduct a comprehensive review of the district under this chapter
12 to determine whether the district should be continued or dissolved.

13 Sec. 2.003. COMPREHENSIVE SELF-EVALUATION REPORT. (a)
14 After conducting the review, the governing body must publish a
15 written self-evaluation report not later than the 30th day before
16 the date of the public hearing required by Section 2.005.

17 (b) The self-evaluation report must include:

18 (1) an identification of the statutory provision
19 authorizing the special district;

20 (2) an identification of the mission, goals, and
21 objectives intended for the special district and an assessment of
22 the extent to which the mission, goals, and objectives have been
23 achieved, have failed to be achieved, or are continuing to be
24 achieved;

25 (3) an identification of the problem or need that the
26 special district was created to address and an assessment of the
27 extent to which the problem or need has been addressed, has failed

1 to be addressed, or is continuing to be addressed;

2 (4) an identification of the activities of the special
3 district that overlap or duplicate those of other governmental
4 entities;

5 (5) an identification of each tax, assessment, fee, or
6 penalty that the special district is authorized to impose or
7 collect;

8 (6) a statement of the revenue collected by the
9 special district and an assessment of whether the revenue exceeds
10 the amount needed to accomplish the mission, goals, and objectives
11 of the district;

12 (7) an identification of the special district's
13 financial liabilities, including bonds and other obligations; and

14 (8) a determination of whether the special district
15 should be continued or dissolved.

16 (c) The governing body must make the self-evaluation report
17 available for inspection by any person. The governing body must
18 take action to ensure that the self-evaluation report is posted
19 continuously on the special district's Internet website.

20 Sec. 2.004. NOTICE OF HEARING. (a) Not earlier than the
21 30th day or later than the 15th day before the date of the hearing
22 required by Section 2.005, the governing body of the special
23 district must publish notice of the hearing in at least one
24 newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the
25 district is located and on the district's Internet website. The
26 notice on the website must remain posted until the conclusion of the
27 hearing.

1 (b) The notice must contain a statement in the following
2 form:

3 "NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE CONTINUATION OF THE

4 (INSERT NAME OF SPECIAL DISTRICT)

5 "The (insert name of the district) was created in (insert
6 year) to (insert purpose for district's creation). The district
7 imposes a (insert type of tax, assessment, or fee, as appropriate,
8 and the appropriate rate or amount). State law requires the
9 district to hold a hearing at least every three years to determine
10 whether the district should be continued or dissolved. The hearing
11 will be held on (insert date) at (insert time) at (insert location).
12 A copy of the district's self-evaluation report is available at
13 (insert the physical address of the district's main office, or the
14 physical address of the main office of another local political
15 subdivision if the district does not maintain an office, and the
16 district's website address where the self-evaluation report is
17 posted)."

18 Sec. 2.005. PUBLIC HEARING. (a) The governing body of a
19 special district must conduct a public hearing at which persons
20 interested in the continuation or dissolution of the district are
21 given the opportunity to be heard.

22 (b) At the conclusion of the hearing, the governing body
23 must vote on the question of whether the special district should be
24 continued or dissolved. If the governing body votes to dissolve the
25 district, the governing body shall take action to dissolve the
26 district.

27 (c) Not later than the 10th day after the date of the public

1 hearing, the governing body must post on the special district's
2 Internet website:

- 3 (1) the minutes of the hearing;
- 4 (2) the estimated number of members of the public in
5 attendance at the hearing; and
- 6 (3) the number of witnesses testifying at the hearing.

7 Sec. 2.006. INTERNET WEBSITE. A special district shall
8 maintain an Internet website to comply with this chapter.

9 SECTION 18. The heading to Section 26.16, Tax Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 Sec. 26.16. REPORTING OF TAX RATES AND POSTING OF [TAX]
12 RATES ON COUNTY'S INTERNET WEBSITE.

13 SECTION 19. Section 26.16, Tax Code, is amended by amending
14 Subsections (a), (b), and (e) and adding Subsection (f) to read as
15 follows:

16 (a) The county assessor-collector for each county,
17 including those that do not participate in the assessment or
18 collection of property taxes, shall maintain [that maintains] an
19 Internet website. The county assessor-collector shall post on the
20 website [of the county] the following information for the most
21 recent five tax years beginning with the 2012 tax year for each
22 taxing unit all or part of the territory of which is located in the
23 county:

- 24 (1) the adopted tax rate;
- 25 (2) the maintenance and operations rate;
- 26 (3) the debt rate;
- 27 (4) the effective tax rate;

1 (5) the effective maintenance and operations rate; and

2 (6) the rollback tax rate.

3 (b) Each taxing unit [~~all or part of the territory of which~~
4 ~~is located in the county~~] shall annually provide the information
5 described by Subsection (a) pertaining to the taxing unit to the
6 county assessor-collector of each county in which all or part of the
7 unit's territory is located [~~annually~~] following the adoption of a
8 tax rate by the taxing unit for the current tax year. The chief
9 appraiser of the appraisal district established in the county may
10 assist the county assessor-collector in identifying the taxing
11 units required to provide information to the assessor-collector.

12 (e) The county assessor-collector for each county shall
13 report the tax rate information described by Subsection (a) for the
14 current tax year to the comptroller.

15 (f) The comptroller by rule shall prescribe the time and
16 manner in which the information described by this section is
17 required to be reported and published [~~presented~~].

18 SECTION 20. Section 140.006, Local Government Code, is
19 repealed.

20 SECTION 21. (a) Section 46.103, Education Code, as added by
21 this Act, applies only to school district construction or
22 renovation projects that are in progress on or are initiated on or
23 after the effective date of this Act. A school district is not
24 required to post information regarding projects that are completed
25 on or before the effective date of this Act.

26 (b) Sections 1251.052 and 1251.053, Government Code, as
27 added by this Act, apply only to a bond election ordered on or after

1 the effective date of this Act. A bond election ordered before the
2 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the
3 bond election was ordered, and the former law is continued in effect
4 for that purpose.

5 (c) Not later than January 1, 2014, the secretary of state
6 shall make available on the secretary of state's Internet website a
7 form of the ballot described by Section 1251.054, Government Code,
8 as added by this Act.

9 (d) The governing body of a school district or junior
10 college district required to publish an annual financial statement
11 under former Section 140.006, Local Government Code, shall publish
12 an annual financial statement for the last fiscal year ending
13 before the effective date of this Act for which the district has not
14 published an annual financial statement.

15 (e) Section 140.008, Local Government Code, as added by this
16 Act, applies only to an annual financial report for a fiscal year
17 ending on or after the effective date of this Act. An annual
18 financial report for a fiscal year ending before the effective date
19 of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the fiscal year
20 ended, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

21 (f) The changes in law made by this Act to Section 271.049,
22 Local Government Code, apply only to a certificate of obligation
23 for which the first notice of intention to issue the certificate is
24 made on or after the effective date of this Act. A certificate of
25 obligation for which the first notice of intention to issue the
26 certificate is made before the effective date of this Act is
27 governed by the law in effect when the notice of intention is made,

1 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

2 (g) The governing body of a special district to which
3 Chapter 2, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by this Act,
4 applies must conclude the first comprehensive review cycle required
5 by that chapter not later than September 1, 2014.

6 SECTION 22. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.