

AN ACT

relating to the filing of financial disclosure statements by trustees of certain independent school districts; providing criminal and civil penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.064, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) This section does not apply to the board of trustees of an independent school district to which Section 11.0641 applies. This subsection expires January 1, 2019.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 11, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 11.0641 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.0641. FILING OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY TRUSTEE REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (a) This section applies only to the board of trustees of an independent school district that is located in a county that is located on the international border and in which a municipality with a population of 600,000 or more is located.

(b) Each member of the board of trustees of an independent school district shall file a financial statement with:

(1) the board of trustees; and

(2) the commissioners court of the county in which the school district's central administrative office is located.

(c) The provisions of Subchapter B, Chapter 572, Government

1 Code, governing the contents, timeliness of filing, and public
2 inspection of a statement apply to a statement filed under this
3 section as if the trustee were a state officer and the commissioners
4 court of the county were the Texas Ethics Commission.

5 (d) A trustee commits an offense if the trustee fails to
6 file the statement required by this section. An offense under this
7 section is a Class B misdemeanor.

8 (e) The commissioners court of the county shall determine
9 from any available evidence whether a statement required to be
10 filed under this section is late. On making a determination that
11 the statement is late, the commissioners court shall immediately
12 mail a notice of the determination to the individual responsible
13 for filing the statement. If a statement is determined to be late,
14 the individual responsible for filing the statement is liable to
15 the county for a civil penalty of \$500. If a statement is more than
16 30 days late, the commissioners court shall issue a warning of
17 liability by registered mail to the individual responsible for the
18 filing. If the penalty is not paid before the 10th day after the
19 date on which the warning is received, the individual is liable for
20 a civil penalty in an amount determined by the commissioners court,
21 but not to exceed \$10,000.

22 (f) A trustee is not required to file a statement under this
23 section for financial activity occurring on or after January 1,
24 2018. This section expires January 1, 2019.

25 SECTION 3. (a) Section 11.0641, Education Code, as added by
26 this Act, applies beginning January 1, 2015. A trustee is not
27 required to include financial activity occurring before January 1,

1 2014, in a statement filed under that section.

2 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to an
3 offense committed on or after January 1, 2014. For purposes of this
4 section, an offense is committed before January 1, 2014, if any
5 element of the offense occurs before that date.

6 (c) An offense committed before January 1, 2014, is covered
7 by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former
8 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

9 (d) The expiration of Section 11.0641, Education Code, as
10 added by this Act, does not affect the prosecution of an offense
11 under or the collection of a civil penalty for the violation of that
12 section as it existed before it expired, and the former law is
13 continued in effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2014.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 343 was passed by the House on May 2, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 5, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 343 on May 21, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 5, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 343 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor