

1-1 By: Sheets (Senate Sponsor - Hancock) H.B. No. 685
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 13, 2015;
 1-3 April 30, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Business and Commerce; May 18, 2015, reported adversely, with
 1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays
 1-6 0; May 18, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9			X	
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 685 By: Huffines

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the production of public information under the public
 1-22 information law.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 552.221, Government Code, is amended by
 1-25 adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

1-26 (b-1) In addition to the methods of production described by
 1-27 Subsection (b), an officer for public information for a political
 1-28 subdivision of this state complies with Subsection (a) by referring
 1-29 a requestor to an exact Internet location or uniform resource
 1-30 locator (URL) address on a website maintained by the political
 1-31 subdivision and accessible to the public if the requested
 1-32 information is identifiable and readily available on that website.
 1-33 If the person requesting the information prefers a manner other
 1-34 than access through the URL, the political subdivision,
 1-35 notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, must supply
 1-36 the information by:

1-37 (1) providing the public information for inspection or
 1-38 duplication in the offices of the governmental body; or

1-39 (2) sending printed copies of the public information
 1-40 by first class United States mail if the person requesting the
 1-41 information requests that copies be provided and pays the postage
 1-42 and any other applicable charges that the requestor has accrued
 1-43 under Subchapter F.

1-44 (b-2) If an officer for public information for a political
 1-45 subdivision provides by e-mail an Internet location or uniform
 1-46 resource locator (URL) address as permitted by Subsection (b-1),
 1-47 the e-mail must contain a statement in a conspicuous font clearly
 1-48 indicating that the requestor may nonetheless access the requested
 1-49 information by inspection or duplication or by receipt through
 1-50 United States mail, as provided by Subsection (b-1).

1-51 SECTION 2. Section 182.052, Utilities Code, is amended by
 1-52 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

1-53 (e) A governmental body as defined by Section 552.003,
 1-54 Government Code, may withhold information prohibited from being
 1-55 disclosed under this section without the necessity of requesting a
 1-56 decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G, Chapter 552,
 1-57 Government Code.

1-58 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
 1-59 a request for information that is received by a governmental body or
 1-60 an officer for public information on or after the effective date of

2-1 this Act. A request for information that was received before the
2-2 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
2-3 date the request was received, and the former law is continued in
2-4 effect for that purpose.

2-5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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