

By: Sanford

H.B. No. 852

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of a joint interim committee to study and
3 make recommendations regarding the storage of biometric
4 identifiers.

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

6 SECTION 1. INTERIM COMMITTEE; STUDY; REPORT. (a) A joint
7 interim committee is created to study and review the methods by
8 which state agencies store biometric identifiers.

9 (b) The study must consider:

10 (1) the level of security currently provided by state
11 agencies to biometric identifiers stored by the agencies;

12 (2) what changes, if any, should be made to ensure that
13 biometric identifiers are stored in a manner that provides the
14 greatest level of security; and

15 (3) if the committee determines that an increase in
16 the level of security provided to biometric identifiers stored by
17 state agencies is warranted, whether additional funds are necessary
18 to increase security to an acceptable level.

19 (c) The committee is composed of:

20 (1) three senators appointed by the lieutenant
21 governor, one of whom the lieutenant governor shall designate as
22 cochair of the committee; and

23 (2) four state representatives appointed by the
24 speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom the speaker

1 shall designate as cochair of the committee.

2 (d) The committee shall convene at least twice at the call
3 of the cochairs.

4 (e) The committee has all other powers and duties provided
5 to a special or select committee by the rules of the senate and
6 house of representatives, by Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Government
7 Code, and by policies of the senate and house committees on
8 administration.

9 (f) Not later than December 1, 2016, the committee shall
10 report the committee's findings and recommendations to the members
11 of the legislature. The committee shall include in its
12 recommendations specific statutory and rule changes that appear
13 necessary from the results of the committee's study.

14 (g) Not later than the 60th day after the effective date of
15 this Act, the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of
16 representatives shall appoint the members of the committee created
17 under this section.

18 (h) The Texas Legislative Council shall provide any
19 necessary staff and resources to the committee created under this
20 section.

21 SECTION 2. ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE. The committee is
22 abolished and this Act expires March 1, 2017.

23 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
24 1, 2015.