

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.