

By: Leach

H.B. No. 1405

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1405:

By: Elkins

C.S.H.B. No. 1405

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the availability on the Internet of reports of political contributions or expenditures filed in connection with certain offices.

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

SECTION 1. Section 254.0401, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a-1) and (c) and adding Subsections (e-1) and (g) to read as follows:

(a-1) The county clerk of a county with a population of 50,000 ~~800,000~~ or more that maintains an Internet website shall make a report filed with the clerk by a candidate, officeholder, or specific-purpose committee under this subchapter in connection with a county office or the office of county commissioner available to the public on the county's Internet website not later than the fifth business day after the date the report is received.

(c) The clerk of a municipality with a population of 50,000 ~~500,000~~ or more that maintains an Internet website shall make a report filed with the clerk by a candidate, officeholder, or specific-purpose committee under this subchapter in connection with the office of mayor or member of the municipality's governing body available to the public on the municipality's Internet website not later than the fifth business day after the date the report is received.

(e-1) Before making a report available on the Internet as

1 required by Subsection (a-1) or (c), the authority with whom the  
2 report is filed may remove each portion, other than city, state, and  
3 zip code, of the address of a person listed as having made a  
4 political contribution to the person filing the report. The address  
5 information removed must remain available on the report maintained  
6 in the authority's office.

7 (g) A report made available on an Internet website under  
8 this section must be accessible on that website until the fifth  
9 anniversary of the date the report is first made available.

10 SECTION 2. The heading to Section 254.04011, Election Code,  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 Sec. 254.04011. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS OF MEMBER OF  
13 GOVERNING BODY OF SCHOOL OR PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT  
14 [TRUSTEES] ON INTERNET.

15 SECTION 3. Section 254.04011, Election Code, is amended by  
16 amending Subsections (a), (c), and (e) and adding Subsections (b-1)  
17 and (f) to read as follows:

18 (a) This section applies only to a school or public junior  
19 college district that maintains an Internet website and has [+]

20 ~~[(1) located wholly or partly in a municipality with a~~  
21 ~~population of more than 500,000, and~~

22 ~~[(2) with]~~ a student enrollment of more than 15,000.

23 (b-1) A report filed under this chapter by a member of the  
24 governing body of a public junior college district, a candidate for  
25 membership on the governing body of a public junior college  
26 district, or a specific-purpose committee for supporting,  
27 opposing, or assisting a candidate or member of a governing body of

1 a public junior college district must be posted on the Internet  
2 website of the district.

3 (c) A report to which Subsection (b) or (b-1) applies must  
4 be available to the public on the Internet website not later than  
5 the fifth business day after the date the report is filed with the  
6 school district.

7 (e) Before making a report available on the Internet under  
8 this section, the school district or public junior college district  
9 may remove each portion, other than city, state, and zip code, of  
10 the address of a person listed as having made a political  
11 contribution to the person filing the report. If the address  
12 information is removed as permitted by this subsection, the  
13 information must remain available on the report maintained in the  
14 [~~school~~] district's office.

15 (f) A report made available on an Internet website under  
16 this section must be accessible on that website until the fifth  
17 anniversary of the date the report is first made available.

18 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act to Sections  
19 254.0401 and 254.04011, Election Code, apply only to a report of  
20 political contributions and expenditures that is required to be  
21 filed under Chapter 254, Election Code, on or after the effective  
22 date of this Act.

23 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.