

By: Simpson

H.B. No. 1582

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disclosure of all compensation paid to current or former elected officers.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 5, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 561 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 561. DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICER

Sec. 561.001. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies to any governmental entity from whose budget an elected officer is compensated, including an agency of this state or a political subdivision of this state governed by one or more elected officers.

Sec. 561.002. INFORMATION ABOUT ALL COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICER. (a) As soon as practicable after the end of the entity's fiscal year, each entity described by Section 561.001 shall disclose all forms of compensation for service in an official capacity received by each currently serving or former elected officer compensated by the entity during the preceding fiscal year in any form, regardless of whether that form of compensation is otherwise required to be disclosed under another law.

(b) For purposes of this section, compensation includes travel reimbursement, health care premiums, retirement benefits, and anything required to be reported by the recipient as income to the Internal Revenue Service.

Sec. 561.003. POSTING OF DISCLOSURES. (a) Except as

1 provided by Subsection (b), the governmental entity must post the  
2 disclosure required by Section 561.002 on the entity's Internet  
3 website, in a location easily accessible by the public. The  
4 disclosure must remain posted in a location easily accessible by  
5 the public until the second anniversary of the date the  
6 governmental entity posted the disclosure.

7 (b) The governing body of a political subdivision that does  
8 not maintain an Internet website shall post each disclosure in each  
9 location at which the political subdivision posts public notices  
10 regarding the political subdivision's budget. A disclosure  
11 described by this subsection shall remain accessible to the public  
12 after posting at the main office of the political subdivision until  
13 the second anniversary of the date the governing body posted the  
14 disclosure.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 561, Government Code, as added by this  
16 Act, applies beginning September 1, 2015. This Act does not require  
17 the disclosure of compensation paid before that date.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.