

By: Galindo

H.B. No. 1931

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reporting requirements for gift or entertainment expenditures made by a person for a member of the board of trustees of an independent school district.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 11, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 11.066 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.066. REPORTING OF GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED TO TRUSTEES. (a) A person who gives a gift, award, or memento, the value of which exceeds the amount for which detailed reporting is required under Section 305.0061(c), Government Code, to a member of the board of trustees of an independent school district must file a report with the Texas Ethics Commission that includes the following:

(1) the person's full name and address;

(2) the name under which the person normally conducts business, the person's business phone number, and the person's business address;

(3) if applicable, the full name and address of each person:

(A) who reimburses, retains, or employs the person to communicate directly with a member of the board of trustees of an independent school district to influence actions taken by the board of trustees; and

1 (B) on whose behalf the person has communicated
2 directly with a member of the board of trustees of an independent
3 school district to influence actions taken by the board of
4 trustees;

5 (4) the name of the member of the board of trustees in
6 whose behalf the expenditure is made;

7 (5) a general description of the gift, award, or
8 memento; and

9 (6) the amount of the expenditure by the appropriate
10 category of the amount, as determined by the Texas Ethics
11 Commission under Section 305.006(b), Government Code.

12 (b) A person who makes an expenditure that exceeds the
13 amount for which detailed reporting is required under Section
14 305.0061(b), Government Code, for entertainment for a member of the
15 board of trustees of an independent school district must file a
16 report with the Texas Ethics Commission that includes the
17 following:

18 (1) the person's full name and address;

19 (2) the name under which the person normally conducts
20 business, the person's business phone number, and the person's
21 business address;

22 (3) if applicable, the full name and address of each
23 person:

24 (A) who reimburses, retains, or employs the
25 person to communicate directly with a member of the board of
26 trustees of an independent school district to influence actions
27 taken by the board of trustees; and

1 (B) on whose behalf the person has communicated
2 directly with a member of the board of trustees of an independent
3 school district to influence actions taken by the board of
4 trustees;

5 (4) the name of the member of the board of trustees in
6 whose behalf the expenditure is made;

7 (5) the place and date of the expenditure; and

8 (6) the amount of the expenditure by the appropriate
9 category of the amount, as determined by the Texas Ethics
10 Commission under Section 305.006(b), Government Code.

11 (c) This section does not apply to a gift, award, or memento
12 given to or expenditures for entertainment made for a member of the
13 board of trustees of an independent school district on account of
14 kinship or a personal, professional, or business relationship
15 independent of the official status of the member.

16 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
17 a gift, award, or memento given to or expenditures for
18 entertainment made for a member of the board of trustees of an
19 independent school district on or after the effective date of this
20 Act. A gift, award, or memento given to or an expenditure for
21 entertainment made for a member of the board of trustees of an
22 independent school district before the effective date of this Act
23 is governed by the law in effect on the date the gift, award, or
24 memento was given, or the date the expenditure for entertainment
25 was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that
26 purpose.

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