

By: Capriglione

H.B. No. 2839

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the production of public information under the public information law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 552.221, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) In addition to the methods of production described by Subsection (b), an officer for public information complies with Subsection (a) by referring a requestor to a website maintained by the governmental body and accessible to the public if the requested information is identifiable and readily available on that website.

SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 552, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 552.233 to read as follows:

Sec. 552.233. RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR COPYRIGHTED INFORMATION. (a) An officer for public information complies with Section 552.221(a) by producing for inspection requested information that is protected by copyright law.

(b) An officer for public information is not required to furnish copies of copyrighted information and may refuse to furnish such copies without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G.

SECTION 3. Section 182.052, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) A governmental body as defined by Section 552.003,

1 Government Code, may withhold information prohibited from being
2 disclosed under this section without the necessity of requesting a
3 decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G, Chapter 552,
4 Government Code.

5 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
6 a request for information that is received by a governmental body or
7 an officer for public information on or after the effective date of
8 this Act. A request for information that was received before the
9 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
10 date the request was received, and the former law is continued in
11 effect for that purpose.

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