

By: Zaffirini  
(Walle)

S.B. No. 1844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment and functions of the Interagency Data  
Transparency Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 10, Government Code, is  
amended by adding Chapter 2060 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2060. INTERAGENCY DATA TRANSPARENCY COMMISSION

Sec. 2060.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commission"  
means the Interagency Data Transparency Commission.

Sec. 2060.002. COMMISSION CREATED. The commission is  
created to study and review:

(1) the current public data structure,  
classification, sharing, and reporting protocols for state  
agencies; and

(2) the possibility of collecting and posting data  
from state agencies online in an open source format that is  
machine-readable, exportable, and easily accessible by the public.

Sec. 2060.003. STUDY. The study conducted by the  
commission must consider methods to:

(1) structure, classify, and share data among state  
agencies;

(2) more efficiently gather and process data;

(3) collect and post data online in an open source  
format that is machine-readable, exportable, and easily accessible

1 by the public;  
2 (4) standardize data across state agencies;  
3 (5) incorporate reporting practices by state agencies  
4 into the open data systems of the state;  
5 (6) improve coordination of interagency data;  
6 (7) improve sharing of data between state agencies;  
7 (8) reduce the costs of collecting data;  
8 (9) reduce duplicative data and information;  
9 (10) increase accountability and ensure state  
10 agencies share and report the data collected by the state agencies;  
11 (11) improve information management and analysis to:  
12 (A) increase information security;  
13 (B) uncover fraud and waste;  
14 (C) reduce costs incurred by state agencies;  
15 (D) improve operations performed by state  
16 agencies; and  
17 (E) verify compliance with applicable laws; and  
18 (12) determine other data and transparency issues.  
19 Sec. 2060.004. REPORT. (a) Not later than September 1,  
20 2016, the commission shall provide to the governor, lieutenant  
21 governor, and speaker of the house of representatives a final  
22 report on data reporting practices by state agencies. The report  
23 must include:  
24 (1) recommendations for efficient and effective  
25 solutions under the commission's charge under Section 2060.003, in  
26 addition to solutions to other data and transparency issues  
27 identified by the commission;

1           (2) proposals for legislation necessary to implement  
2 the recommendations described by Subdivision (1);

3           (3) administrative recommendations; and

4           (4) a complete explanation of each of the commission's  
5 recommendations.

6           (b) The commission shall provide any additional reports  
7 requested by the governor, lieutenant governor, or speaker of the  
8 house of representatives.

9           Sec. 2060.005. MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION. (a) The  
10 commission is composed of the following members:

11           (1) two representatives from the Department of  
12 Information Resources, appointed by the executive director of the  
13 department;

14           (2) a representative of the Texas Legislative Council,  
15 appointed by the executive director of the council;

16           (3) a representative of the Legislative Budget Board,  
17 appointed by the director of the board;

18           (4) a member of each committee of the house of  
19 representatives and the senate with primary jurisdiction over  
20 information resources, appointed by the chair of each committee;

21           (5) the chair of the State Agency Coordinating  
22 Committee established by the Department of Information Resources,  
23 or a member of the committee appointed by the chair;

24           (6) a representative of the comptroller, appointed by  
25 the comptroller;

26           (7) a representative appointed by the governor, who  
27 serves as the presiding officer of the commission;

1           (8) a representative appointed by the lieutenant  
2 governor; and

3           (9) a representative appointed by the speaker of the  
4 house of representatives.

5           (b) A commission member is not entitled to reimbursement of  
6 expenses or to compensation.

7           (c) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled as soon as  
8 practicable in the same manner as the original appointment.

9           Sec. 2060.006. ASSISTANCE BY STATE AGENCIES. The  
10 comptroller or a state agency with a representative on the  
11 commission shall provide any assistance the commission requires to  
12 perform the commission's duties.

13           SECTION 2. (a) Each appointing official shall appoint  
14 members to the Interagency Data Transparency Commission not later  
15 than December 31, 2015.

16           (b) The Interagency Data Transparency Commission shall meet  
17 not later than the 30th day after the date the final initial  
18 appointment is made under Section 2060.005, Government Code, as  
19 added by this Act, and shall meet regularly as necessary at the call  
20 of the presiding officer.

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