

By: Burrows

H.B. No. 1839

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the submission of a report by certain entities identifying spending reduction measures.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 322, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 322.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 322.025. REPORT ON SPENDING REDUCTION MEASURES. (a) Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, each entity that is required to submit a legislative appropriations request shall submit to the board a detailed report identifying measures by which the entity may reduce its expenditures from general revenue and general revenue-dedicated accounts by 1 percent, 5 percent, and 10 percent in the next state fiscal biennium.

(b) An entity described by Subsection (a) shall rank each of the 1 percent, 5 percent, and 10 percent spending reduction measures from highest to lowest priority. The entity shall assign higher priority to measures that:

(1) have fewer consequences for the entity's programs and goals;

(2) have less impact on populations served by the entity; or

(3) eliminate redundancies and inefficiencies.

(c) An entity described by Subsection (a) may not include in the report a spending reduction measure that would violate the

1 state or federal constitution.

2 (d) The board may exempt certain expenditures from  
3 consideration under this section.

4 (e) The board may issue guidance regarding:

5 (1) standards for reports required by this section,  
6 including format, content, and methods of submission; and

7 (2) prioritizing spending reduction measures under  
8 Subsection (b).

9 (f) The board may require an entity to submit the report  
10 under this section with the entity's legislative appropriations  
11 request.

12 (g) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,  
13 the board shall make reports received under this section available  
14 to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of  
15 representatives, and members of the legislature.

16 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.