

By: Fallon

H.B. No. 3597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the availability of certain school district financial information on certain districts' Internet websites.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 44, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Sec. 44.101. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies only to a school district that is ranked among the 50 highest in student enrollment, as determined by the commissioner.

Sec. 44.102. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE. (a) A school district shall maintain on the district's Internet website an electronic database of district finances. The database must include:

(1) for the immediately preceding fiscal year:

(A) total expenditures as a dollar amount and a dollar amount per student in average daily attendance;

(B) total revenue as a dollar amount and a dollar amount per student in average daily attendance;

(C) total revenue from property taxes as a dollar amount and a dollar amount per student in average daily attendance;

and

(D) the total number of full-time equivalent positions for the district;

(2) in a searchable electronic format, the district's

approved budget for the current fiscal year and each of the four preceding fiscal years that, for each budget:

(A) identifies by name the accounts and divisions of all money held or disbursed by the district;

(B) includes all revenue and expenditures in the district's budget; and

(C) includes all combined accounts;

(3) the district's annual financial report for the preceding five fiscal years;

(4) in a searchable electronic format, the transaction register for each district checking account, including:

(A) for each check written from a district checking account:

(i) the transaction amount;

(ii) the name of the payee;

(iii) the date the check was issued; and

(iv) a statement of the purpose of the expenditure for which the check was written;

(B) monthly, quarterly, and semi-annual totals for all expenditures;

(C) any electronic fund transfers;

(D) all payroll direct deposits; and

(E) any bank drafts for bond or loan payments;

(5) a visualization chart depicting district financial data trends for the preceding five fiscal years that shows for each fiscal year:

(A) total expenditures per student in average

1 daily attendance;

2 (B) total revenue per student in average daily  
3 attendance; and

4 (C) the district property tax rate expressed in  
5 dollars per \$100 valuation;

6 (6) an explanation of terminology used on the  
7 database, as appropriate;

8 (7) contact information for the district and members  
9 of the board of trustees of the district; and

10 (8) a link to a web page maintained by the district  
11 that provides instructions for submitting a request for information  
12 under Chapter 552, Government Code.

13 (b) District budget data must be formatted in a manner that  
14 allows any person using the district's Internet website to perform  
15 an analysis of the data.

16 (c) The district's financial report for the current fiscal  
17 year must be posted not later than the first anniversary of the end  
18 of the fiscal year.

19 (d) A school district shall:

20 (1) update the electronic checking account  
21 transaction register at least once each month, not later than the  
22 30th day after the closing date of the most recent monthly statement  
23 for the checking account;

24 (2) maintain each transaction or listing in the  
25 electronic checking account transaction register on the district's  
26 Internet website until at least the third anniversary of the date of  
27 the transaction or listing; and

1           (3) for each fiscal year that transactions and  
2 listings are included in the electronic checking account  
3 transaction register, group together the transactions and listings  
4 by fiscal year.

5           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.