

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 118

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the Internet broadcast of open meetings of the Texas  
3 Board of Criminal Justice.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 492, Government Code, is amended by  
6 adding Section 492.0061 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 492.0061. INTERNET BROADCAST AND ARCHIVE OF OPEN  
8 MEETINGS. (a) The department shall broadcast over the Internet  
9 live video and audio of each open meeting of the board. The  
10 department shall provide access to the broadcast on the  
11 department's Internet website.

12 (b) Not later than the seventh day after the date an open  
13 meeting is broadcast under this section, the department shall make  
14 available through the department's Internet website archived video  
15 and audio of the open meeting. The department shall maintain the  
16 archived video and audio of the open meeting on the department's  
17 Internet website until the second anniversary of the date the  
18 archived video and audio was first made available on the website.

19 (c) The department shall provide on the department's  
20 Internet website the same notice of the open meeting that the board  
21 is required to post under Subchapter C, Chapter 551. The notice  
22 must be posted on the department's Internet website within the time  
23 required for posting notice under Subchapter C, Chapter 551.

24 (d) The department may use for an Internet broadcast of an

1 open meeting of the board a room made available to the department on  
2 request in any state building, as that term is defined by Section  
3 2165.301.

4 (e) The department is exempt from the requirements of this  
5 section to the extent a catastrophe, as defined by Section  
6 551.0411, or a technical breakdown prevents the department from  
7 complying with this section. Following the catastrophe or  
8 technical breakdown, the department shall make all reasonable  
9 efforts to make the required video and audio of the open meeting  
10 available in a timely manner.

11 (f) The board shall consider contracting through  
12 competitive bidding with a private individual or entity to  
13 broadcast and archive an open meeting subject to this section to  
14 minimize the cost of complying with this section.

15 SECTION 2. Section 492.0061, Government Code, as added by  
16 this Act, applies only to an open meeting held on or after September  
17 1, 2019.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.