

Amend CSHB 4214 (house committee report) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering the SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 2051, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT

Sec. 2051.151. SHORT TITLE. This subchapter may be cited as the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act.

Sec. 2051.152. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.

(2) "Legal material" means, whether or not in effect:

(A) the constitution of this state;

(B) the general or special laws passed in a regular or special session of the Texas Legislature; and

(C) a state agency rule adopted in accordance with Chapter 2001.

(3) "Official publisher" means:

(A) for legal material described by Subdivision (2)(A), the Texas Legislative Council; and

(B) for legal material described by Subdivision (2)(B) or (C), the secretary of state.

(4) "Publish" means displaying, presenting, or releasing to the public, or causing to be displayed, presented, or released to the public, legal material by the official publisher.

(5) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

Sec. 2051.153. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies to all legal material in an electronic record that is:

(1) designated as official by the official publisher under Section 2051.154; and

(2) first published electronically by the official publisher on or after January 1, 2021.

(b) The official publisher is not required to publish legal material on or before the date on which the legal material takes

effect.

Sec. 2051.154. LEGAL MATERIAL IN OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC RECORD. (a) If the official publisher publishes legal material only in an electronic record, the official publisher shall:

(1) designate the electronic record as official; and

(2) comply with Sections 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158.

(b) If the official publisher publishes legal material in an electronic record and also publishes the material in a record other than an electronic record, the official publisher may designate the electronic record as official if the official publisher complies with Sections 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158.

Sec. 2051.155. AUTHENTICATION OF OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC RECORD. (a) If the official publisher designates an electronic record as official in accordance with Section 2051.154, the official publisher shall authenticate the record.

(b) The official publisher authenticates an electronic record by providing a method with which a person viewing the electronic record is able to determine that the electronic record is unaltered from the official record published by the official publisher.

Sec. 2051.156. EFFECT OF AUTHENTICATION. (a) Legal material in an electronic record that is authenticated as provided by Section 2051.155 is presumed to be an accurate copy of the legal material.

(b) If another state has adopted a law that is substantially similar to this subchapter, legal material in an electronic record that is authenticated in that state is presumed to be an accurate copy of the legal material.

(c) A party contesting the authenticity of legal material in an electronic record authenticated as provided by Section 2051.155 has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the record is not authentic.

Sec. 2051.157. PRESERVATION AND SECURITY OF LEGAL MATERIAL IN OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC RECORD. (a) The official publisher of legal material in an electronic record designated as official in accordance with Section 2051.154 shall provide for the preservation

and security of the record in an electronic form or in a form that is not electronic.

(b) If legal material is preserved under Subsection (a) in an electronic record, the official publisher shall:

- (1) ensure the integrity of the record;
- (2) provide for backup and disaster recovery of the record; and
- (3) ensure the continuing usability of the legal material in the record.

Sec. 2051.158. PUBLIC ACCESS. The official publisher of legal material in an electronic record that is required to be preserved under Section 2051.157 shall ensure that the material is reasonably available for use by the public on a permanent basis.

Sec. 2051.159. STANDARDS. In implementing this subchapter, the official publisher of legal material in an electronic record shall consider:

- (1) the standards and practices of other jurisdictions;
- (2) the most recent standards regarding authentication, preservation, and security of and public access to legal material in an electronic record and other electronic records, as adopted by national standard-setting bodies;
- (3) the needs of users of legal material in electronic records;
- (4) the views of governmental officials and entities and other interested persons; and
- (5) to the extent practicable, the methods and technologies for the authentication, preservation, and security of and public access to legal material that are compatible with the methods and technologies used by official publishers in other states that have adopted a law that is substantially similar to this subchapter.

Sec. 2051.160. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION. In applying and construing this subchapter, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to the subject matter of this subchapter among states that enact a law similar to this subchapter.

Sec. 2051.161. RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT. This subchapter modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (15 U.S.C. Section 7001 et seq.) but does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that Act (15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c)) or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that Act (15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b)).

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. (a) An official publisher in the executive branch of state government shall comply with the applicable provisions of Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added by this Act, in accordance with an implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The Texas State Library and Archives Commission and an official publisher in the executive branch of state government are jointly responsible for developing an implementation plan for the applicable provisions of Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added by this Act. The implementation plan must:

(1) for each applicable type of legal material defined by Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added by this Act, advise as to the method by which the legal material may be authenticated, preserved, and made available on a permanent basis; and

(2) establish a timeline for the official publisher to comply with Sections 2051.154, 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158, Government Code, as added by this Act.

(c) The implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section may provide for compliance by an official publisher in the executive branch of state government with Sections 2051.154, 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158, Government Code, as added by this Act, to be phased in over a period of time.

(d) The Texas State Library and Archives Commission shall provide the implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section to the legislature not later than September 1, 2020.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. (a) An official publisher in the legislative branch of state government shall comply with the applicable provisions of Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added

by this Act, in accordance with an implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section.

(b) An official publisher in the legislative branch of state government, in consultation with the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the Senate Committee on Administration, and the House Committee on Administration, shall develop an implementation plan for the applicable provisions of Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added by this Act. The implementation plan must:

(1) for each applicable type of legal material defined by Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code, as added by this Act, recommend the method by which the legal material may be authenticated, preserved, and made available on a permanent basis; and

(2) establish a timeline for the official publisher to comply with Sections 2051.154, 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158, Government Code, as added by this Act.

(c) The implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section may provide for compliance by an official publisher in the legislative branch of state government with Sections 2051.154, 2051.155, 2051.157, and 2051.158, Government Code, as added by this Act, to be phased in over a period of time.

(d) An official publisher in the legislative branch of state government shall provide the implementation plan developed under Subsection (b) of this section to the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of representatives not later than September 1, 2020.