

By: Swanson

H.B. No. 3727

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3727:

By: Stickland

C.S.H.B. No. 3727

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the online publication of information by certain special purpose districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 403.0241, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(b) The comptroller shall create and make accessible on the Internet a database, to be known as the Special Purpose District Public Information Database, that contains information regarding:

(1) all special purpose districts of this state that:

(A) [~~(1)~~] are authorized by the state by a general or special law to impose an ad valorem tax or a sales and use tax, to impose an assessment, or to charge a fee; and

(B) [~~(2)~~] during the most recent fiscal year:

(i) [~~(A)~~] had bonds outstanding;

(ii) [~~(B)~~] had gross receipts from operations, loans, taxes, or contributions in excess of \$250,000; or

(iii) [~~(C)~~] had cash and temporary investments in excess of \$250,000; and

(2) all emergency services districts and municipal utility districts with a population of more than 100.

(c-1) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (c), the

1 entry for each emergency services district and municipal utility  
2 district in the database must include:

3 (1) an indication of how a person may contact a  
4 specified person or address to obtain:

5 (A) contact information for board members; and

6 (B) meeting agendas and minutes;

7 (2) the term of each board member; and

8 (3) information provided to the comptroller under  
9 Section 775.046(c), Health and Safety Code, or Section 54.244(c),  
10 Water Code, as applicable.

11 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 775, Health and Safety  
12 Code, is amended by adding Section 775.046 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 775.046. ONLINE PUBLICATION. (a) In this section,  
14 "comptroller database" means the Special Purpose District Public  
15 Information Database established under Section 403.0241,  
16 Government Code.

17 (b) This section applies only to a district with a  
18 population of more than 100.

19 (c) In addition to information a district is required to  
20 provide to the comptroller under Section 403.0241, Government Code,  
21 and Section 203.062, Local Government Code, the district annually  
22 shall provide to the comptroller for inclusion in the comptroller  
23 database:

24 (1) an indication of whether the district's  
25 commissioners are appointed or elected;

26 (2) if the district's commissioners are elected:

27 (A) an indication of the month in which the

1 district's regular elections take place;

2 (B) instructions for becoming a candidate to be  
3 elected as a commissioner, including any relevant deadlines for  
4 filing required documents; and

5 (C) instructions for obtaining the results of  
6 district elections; and

7 (3) if the district's commissioners are appointed, a  
8 description of the appointment process and the person or body that  
9 has appointing authority.

10 (d) A district shall maintain:

11 (1) an Internet website; or

12 (2) an Internet domain name that:

13 (A) includes a form of the name of the district;

14 and

15 (B) directs a user to the district's entry in the  
16 comptroller database.

17 (e) If the district maintains an Internet website, the board  
18 shall ensure that the following items are posted on the Internet  
19 website and that the items required under Subdivisions (3), (4),  
20 and (5) are updated on the district's Internet website at least 90  
21 days before the date of an election held by the district:

22 (1) a link to the district's entry in the comptroller  
23 database;

24 (2) the name and term of each commissioner;

25 (3) the information described by Subsections

26 (c)(1)-(3);

27 (4) the district's tax rate;

1           (5) the district's budget; and

2           (6) meeting agendas and minutes.

3           SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Water Code, is amended  
4 by adding Section 54.244 to read as follows:

5           Sec. 54.244. ONLINE PUBLICATION. (a) In this section,  
6 "comptroller database" means the Special Purpose District Public  
7 Information Database established under Section 403.0241,  
8 Government Code.

9           (b) This section applies only to a district with a  
10 population of more than 100.

11           (c) In addition to information a district is required to  
12 provide to the comptroller under Section 403.0241, Government Code,  
13 and Section 203.062, Local Government Code, the district annually  
14 shall provide to the comptroller for inclusion in the comptroller  
15 database:

16           (1) an indication of whether the district's directors  
17 are appointed or elected;

18           (2) if the district's directors are elected:

19           (A) an indication of the month in which the  
20 district's regular elections take place;

21           (B) instructions for becoming a candidate to be  
22 elected as a director, including any relevant deadlines for filing  
23 required documents; and

24           (C) instructions for obtaining the results of  
25 district elections; and

26           (3) if the district's directors are appointed, a  
27 description of the appointment process and the person or body that

1 has appointing authority.

2 (d) A district shall maintain:

3 (1) an Internet website; or

4 (2) an Internet domain name that:

5 (A) includes a form of the name of the district;

6 and

7 (B) directs a user to the district's entry in the  
8 comptroller database.

9 (e) If the district maintains an Internet website, the board  
10 shall ensure that the following items are posted on the Internet  
11 website and that the items required by Subdivisions (3), (4), and  
12 (5) are updated on the district's Internet website at least 90 days  
13 before the date of an election held by the district:

14 (1) a link to the district's entry in the comptroller  
15 database;

16 (2) the name and term of each director;

17 (3) the information described by Subsections

18 (c)(1)-(3);

19 (4) the district's tax rate;

20 (5) the district's budget; and

21 (6) meeting agendas and minutes.

22 (f) A district shall provide a link to the Internet website  
23 or the Internet domain name required under Subsection (d):

24 (1) on the first page of each bill sent to a customer;

25 and

26 (2) in a prominent location on each electronic bill or  
27 receipt sent to a customer.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.