

By: Vasut

H.B. No. 175

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to charges imposed by a governmental body for providing copies of campaign finance reports under the public information law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 552.261, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) A governmental body may not impose a charge under this subchapter for providing a copy of public information if:

(1) the information is a report required to be filed with the governmental body under Subchapter C or D, Chapter 254, Election Code, unless all of those reports filed with the governmental body during the preceding three years are available to the public on the governmental body's Internet website;

(2) the governmental body fails to disclose the information on or before the 10th business day after the date of receiving the requestor's written request, unless the governmental body:

(A) sends a written request for clarification under Section 552.222(b); or

(B) requests a decision from the attorney general under Section 552.301; or

(3) the governmental body requests a decision from the attorney general under Section 552.301 and:

1 (A) the governmental body fails to comply with
2 Subsection (d) of that section; or

3 (B) the attorney general determines the
4 requested information must be disclosed.

5 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
6 a request for public information received by a governmental body or
7 officer for public information on or after the effective date of
8 this Act.

9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
14 legislative session.