87R5825 JCG-F

By:  Capriglione H.B. No. 2913

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the posting of certain contracts to the Internet websites of governmental bodies.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 2265, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2265.002 to read as follows:

Sec. 2265.002.  REQUIRED POSTING OF CERTAIN CONTRACTS. (a) In this section, "governmental body" has the meaning assigned by Section 552.003.

(b)  Except as provided by Subsection (g), a governmental body shall post on its Internet website each contract the governmental body enters into for the purchase of goods or services from a private vendor, including each contract entered into without inviting, advertising for, or otherwise requiring competitive bidding before selection of the contractor, along with:

(1)  if the contract was not competitively bid, the statutory or other authority that exempts the contract from competitive bidding procedures; and

(2)  if the contract was competitively bid, the request for bids or proposals related to the contract.

(c)  A governmental body shall post the contract and any related documents required to be posted under Subsection (b) on its Internet website:

(1)  not later than the 14th day after the date the contract is signed or otherwise adopted by the parties to the contract; or

(2)  if the contract is valued at less than $15,000, not later than the 30th day after the date the contract is signed or otherwise adopted by the parties to the contract.

(d)  The governmental body shall maintain the posting required by Subsection (b) until the fourth anniversary of the date the contract is completed or expires.

(e)  A governmental body shall redact from a contract posted on its Internet website under this section:

(1)  information that is confidential under law;

(2)  information the attorney general determines is excepted from required public disclosure under Chapter 552; and

(3)  the social security number of any individual.

(f)  The redaction of information under Subsection (e) does not exempt the information from the requirements of Section 552.021 or 552.221.

(g)  A governmental body is not required to post the information required by Subsection (b) for:

(1)  a contract required to be posted under Section 2261.253;

(2)  a memorandum of understanding, interagency contract, interlocal agreement, or contract for which there is not a cost; or

(3)  any contract if the governmental body does not maintain an Internet website.

SECTION 2.  Not later than September 1, 2022, a governmental body shall post to its Internet website each contract to which Section 2265.002, Government Code, as added by this Act, applies that was entered into before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.