

By: Vasut, et al.

H.B. No. 613

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the imposition of charges by a governmental body for  
3 providing copies of public information under the public information  
4 law.

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

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

8 (f) A governmental body may not impose a charge under this  
9 subchapter for providing a copy of public information if the  
10 information is a report required to be filed with the governmental  
11 body under Subchapter C or D, Chapter 254, Election Code, unless all  
12 of those reports filed with the governmental body during the  
13 preceding three years are available to the public on the  
14 governmental body's Internet website.

15 SECTION 2. Section 552.269, Government Code, is amended by  
16 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

17 (c) The attorney general may cancel or reduce any charge or  
18 portion of a charge imposed by a governmental body under this  
19 subchapter if the attorney general determines that the governmental  
20 body:

21 (1) has not maintained the requested information in  
22 accordance with standard recordkeeping practices; or

23 (2) failed to comply with this chapter with regard to  
24 the request for public information for which the charge is imposed.

1           SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
2 a request for public information received by a governmental body or  
3 officer for public information on or after the effective date of  
4 this Act.

5           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.