

Amend CSHB 1397 (senate committee report) by striking all below the enacting clause and substituting the following:

SECTION 1. Chapter 443, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 443.031 to read as follows:

Sec. 443.031. CARE, CUSTODY, AND DISPLAY OF VICTORY OR DEATH LETTER, TEXAS CONSTITUTION, AND TEXAS DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. (a) In this section, "victory or death letter" means the letter written by Lieutenant Colonel William B. Travis dated February 24, 1836, and signed "Victory or Death."

(b) The board is responsible for the care and custody of the victory or death letter, the Texas Constitution, and the Texas Declaration of Independence. The board is responsible for the safety and preservation of the victory or death letter at all times, including when the letter is in the direct custody of the board, in storage, or on display in the Alamo complex, Capitol Complex, or another site the board determines appropriate under Subsection (f).

(c) The board, in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, shall:

(1) designate an appropriate place in the Alamo complex for the secure display of the victory or death letter; and

(2) on the Texas Historical Commission's determination that the transfer to and display of the letter at the Alamo complex is safe and appropriate, transfer the letter to that location for display.

(d) Until the board designates an appropriate place in the Alamo complex to display the victory or death letter and in collaboration with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission determines an appropriate time to securely transfer the letter to that place, the board, in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, shall display the victory or death letter in the public location at the Capitol Complex at which the Texas Constitution and the Texas Declaration of Independence are displayed as required by Subsection (e).

(e) The board shall collaborate with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to

determine an appropriate public location at the Capitol Complex for the secure display of the Texas Constitution and the Texas Declaration of Independence.

(e-1) The board, in consultation and collaboration with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and not later than December 1, 2027, shall:

(1) develop a plan to display:

(A) the Texas Declaration of Independence and the Texas Constitution in the Capitol Complex; and

(B) the victory or death letter in the Alamo complex and other sites the board determines appropriate under Subsection (f);

(2) publish the plan on the board's Internet website;
and

(3) provide a copy of the plan to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over the state's historical resources.

(e-2) Subsection (e-1) and this subsection expire September 1, 2031.

(f) The board, in consultation and collaboration with the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, may authorize for a limited period the display of the Texas Constitution, the Texas Declaration of Independence, or the victory or death letter at a museum, historical event, or historical site.

(g) Costs attributable to the display of the victory or death letter, the Texas Constitution, and the Texas Declaration of Independence shall be paid by the board, using money available to the board for that purpose.

SECTION 2. On the day the Texas Constitution, the Texas Declaration of Independence, and the letter described by Section 443.031(a), Government Code, as added by this Act, are to be displayed at the Capitol Complex, as provided by Sections 443.031(d) and (e), Government Code, as added by this Act, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission shall transfer to the State Preservation Board the Texas Constitution, the Texas Declaration of Independence, and the letter described by Section 443.031(a),

Government Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.