

1-1 By: Nichols S.B. No. 992  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 29, 2025;  
1-3 February 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 State Affairs; March 5, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0; March 5, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Hughes	X			
1-9	Paxton	X			
1-10	Bettencourt	X			
1-11	Birdwell	X			
1-12	Hall	X			
1-13	Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
1-14	Middleton	X			
1-15	Parker	X			
1-16	Perry	X			
1-17	Schwertner	X			
1-18	Zaffirini	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the procedure by which the attorney general approves or  
1-22 denies approval of a state agency contract for outside legal  
1-23 services.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section 402.0212, Government Code, is amended by  
1-26 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

1-27 (a-1) The attorney general shall approve or deny approval of  
1-28 a contract for legal services described by Subsection (a) not later  
1-29 than the 25th day after the date the contract is received by the  
1-30 attorney general from the submitting state agency. If the attorney  
1-31 general denies approval of the contract, the attorney general shall  
1-32 provide the state agency that submitted the contract a written  
1-33 explanation of the reason the attorney general denied approval of  
1-34 the contract.

1-35 SECTION 2. Section 825.203(c), Government Code, is amended  
1-36 to read as follows:

1-37 (c) ~~[The attorney general shall timely act on a request to~~  
1-38 ~~approve a contract for outside legal services under Section~~  
1-39 ~~402.0212.]~~ If the attorney general denies the board's request for  
1-40 approval of a contract for outside legal services, ~~[+~~

1-41 ~~[(1) the attorney general shall provide the board with~~  
1-42 ~~the reason for the denial, and~~

1-43 ~~[(2)]~~ the board may select alternative outside legal  
1-44 counsel, subject to approval by the attorney general in accordance  
1-45 with this section and Section 402.0212.

1-46 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
1-47 to a contract for legal services submitted for approval to the  
1-48 attorney general on or after the effective date of this Act. A  
1-49 contract submitted for approval to the attorney general before the  
1-50 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect  
1-51 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is  
1-52 continued in effect for that purpose.

1-53 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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