

AN ACT

relating to the production of public information under the public information law.

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

SECTION 1. Section [552.221](#), Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b-1) In addition to the methods of production described by Subsection (b), an officer for public information for a political subdivision of this state complies with Subsection (a) by referring a requestor to an exact Internet location or uniform resource locator (URL) address on a website maintained by the political subdivision and accessible to the public if the requested information is identifiable and readily available on that website. If the person requesting the information prefers a manner other than access through the URL, the political subdivision must supply the information in the manner required by Subsection (b).

(b-2) If an officer for public information for a political subdivision provides by e-mail an Internet location or uniform resource locator (URL) address as permitted by Subsection (b-1), the e-mail must contain a statement in a conspicuous font clearly indicating that the requestor may nonetheless access the requested information by inspection or duplication or by receipt through United States mail, as provided by Subsection (b).

SECTION 2. Section [182.052](#), Utilities Code, is amended by

1 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

2 (e) A governmental body as defined by Section 552.003,
3 Government Code, may withhold information prohibited from being
4 disclosed under this section without the necessity of requesting a
5 decision from the attorney general under Subchapter G, Chapter 552,
6 Government Code.

7 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
8 a request for information that is received by a governmental body or
9 an officer for public information on or after the effective date of
10 this Act. A request for information that was received before the
11 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
12 date the request was received, and the former law is continued in
13 effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 685 was passed by the House on April 9, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 685 on May 26, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 685 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor