

**SUBJECT:** State agency protection, destruction of information identifying individuals

**COMMITTEE:** Government Transparency and Operation — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 6 ayes — Elkins, Walle, Galindo, Gutierrez, Leach, Scott Turner

0 nays

1 absent — Gonzales

**WITNESSES:** For — None

Against — None

**BACKGROUND:** Observers have noted that information maintained by universities or state agencies, in the event of a security breach, could compromise the personal records of students and state employees.

**DIGEST:** HB 3248 would amend Government Code, Subtitle B, Title 10 regarding general government information and planning by requiring state agencies, including institutions of higher education, to develop policies and procedures to properly secure identity-related information. This information would include electronic and any electronic backup of that information that alone or in conjunction with other information would identify an individual. Agencies would be required to implement electronic security strategies developed by the Department of Information Resources.

If not required to be retained under other law, a state agency would be required to destroy information that identified an individual to properly protect the information from disclosure.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015.