

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1043  
By: Wentworth  
State Affairs  
4/7/1999  
As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, the threshold amount for requiring a deposit on copy costs under the Public Information Act is \$100. This deposit protects the governmental entities when a requestor asks that documents be copied, the entity copies the documents, and the requestor never picks up the copies. This has been a financial burden on some entities. S.B. 1043 would lower the threshold deposit for governmental entities that employ 15 or fewer full-time employees.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 1043 regulates the deposit that a governmental body may require under the open records law before preparing copies of certain information.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 552.263(a), Government Code, to authorize an officer for public information or the officer's agent to require a deposit or bond for payment of anticipated costs for the preparation of a copy of public information if the charge for providing the copy of the public information specifically requested by the requestor is estimated by the governmental body to exceed \$100, if the governmental body employs more than 15 full-time employees; or \$50, if the governmental body employs 15 or fewer full-time employees. Effective date: 90 days after adjournment.