

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R20834 EES-F

H.B. 3683
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State Affairs
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Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

A clear trend across state government and the private sector is emerging to reduce paper filing, and an agency with such limited resources as the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) should leverage these technological advances to use its resources efficiently. Current law, however, does not authorize statewide candidates and officeholders to file personal financial statements electronically. H.B. 3683 would require statewide filers to file personal financial statements electronically, which would enhance TEC's ability to leverage existing technology to save resources.

H.B. 3683 amends current law relating to the electronic filing of personal financial statements with the Texas Ethics Commission.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 572, Government Code, by adding Section 572.0291, as follows:

Sec. 572.0291. ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIRED. Requires that a financial statement filed with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) be filed by computer diskette, modem, or other means of electronic transfer, using computer software provided by TEC or computer software that meets TEC specifications for a standard file format.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2015.