

## CHAPTER 749

## H.B. No. 1959

An Act relating to requiring the Texas Department of Water Resources to make certain information available to the public.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 26, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 26.0151 to read as follows:

*Sec. 26.0151. PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a) The department shall provide for publishing or otherwise releasing on a regular basis as public information:*

*(1) the results of inspections and investigations conducted under Section 26.014 of this code; and*

*(2) any other information routinely prepared by the department relating to compliance with this chapter or with a rule or order adopted under this chapter.*

*(b) The department shall establish a procedure by which, in response to a written request, a person or organization will be sent a copy of an inspection, investigation, or compliance report for a specified facility or system or for facilities or systems in a specified area or, on a regular basis, a copy of the information released under Subsection (a) of this section.*

*(c) The department shall charge a reasonable fee for each copy sent under Subsection (b) of this section. The fee must be set at an amount that is estimated to recover the full cost of producing and copying and mailing a copy of the report and must be paid in cash or by cashier's check.*

*(d) A copy of a report shall be sent to the person or organization requesting it not later than the 30th day after the date on which the fee is paid or on which the report is made, whichever is later.*

*(e) This section does not apply to any information excepted under Section 3, Chapter 424, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973 (Article 6252-17a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).*

**SECTION 2.** This Act takes effect September 1, 1985.

**SECTION 3.** The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed by the House on May 17, 1985, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 26, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved: June 14, 1985

Effective: September 1, 1985