

CHAPTER 291

H.B. No. 503

AN ACT

relating to certain requirements for state agencies that issue publications for distribution to members of the legislature.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "state agency" means:

(1) a department, commission, board, office, or other agency in the executive branch of state government created by the constitution or a statute of this state;

(2) a university system or institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; or

(3) the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, a court of appeals, or the Texas Judicial Council.

SECTION 2. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT. (a) In order to avoid waste in the duplication and distribution of state agency reports and other publications, each state agency that issues publications relating to the work of that agency and that distributes the publications to members of the legislature shall, except for reports required by law, send a written notice to each member before mailing or otherwise distributing the publication to determine whether or not that member wishes to receive the publication. The agency shall include with the notice to each member a brief written summary that describes each publication.

(b) A member who wishes to receive the state agency publication shall notify the agency.

SECTION 3. RECYCLED PAPER. A state agency that issues reports or other publications for general distribution, including distribution to members of the legislature, shall use recycled paper to produce those publications when cost-effective to the greatest extent possible.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987, and applies to state agency publications that are printed on or after that date.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. 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 8, 1987, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 503 on May 30, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 11, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.