

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 999
By: Madden
Elections
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Under current law, candidates, officeholders, and political committees are required to file reports electronically with the Texas Ethics Commission. The Election Code provides an exception to this requirement for those who claim they do not use a computer to keep current records. In recent years, the use of computers has become widespread. Computers are available at public libraries and other locations throughout the state, giving access to those who do not possess their own, and filers are authorized to use these publicly accessible computers to file their reports with the Texas Ethics Commission. House Bill 999 removes the exception to electronic filing requirements for those claiming they do not use computers.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

House Bill 999 amends the Election Code by repealing the exception to the electronic filing requirements for candidates, officeholders, or political committees who claim they do not use computer equipment to keep current records.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2003.